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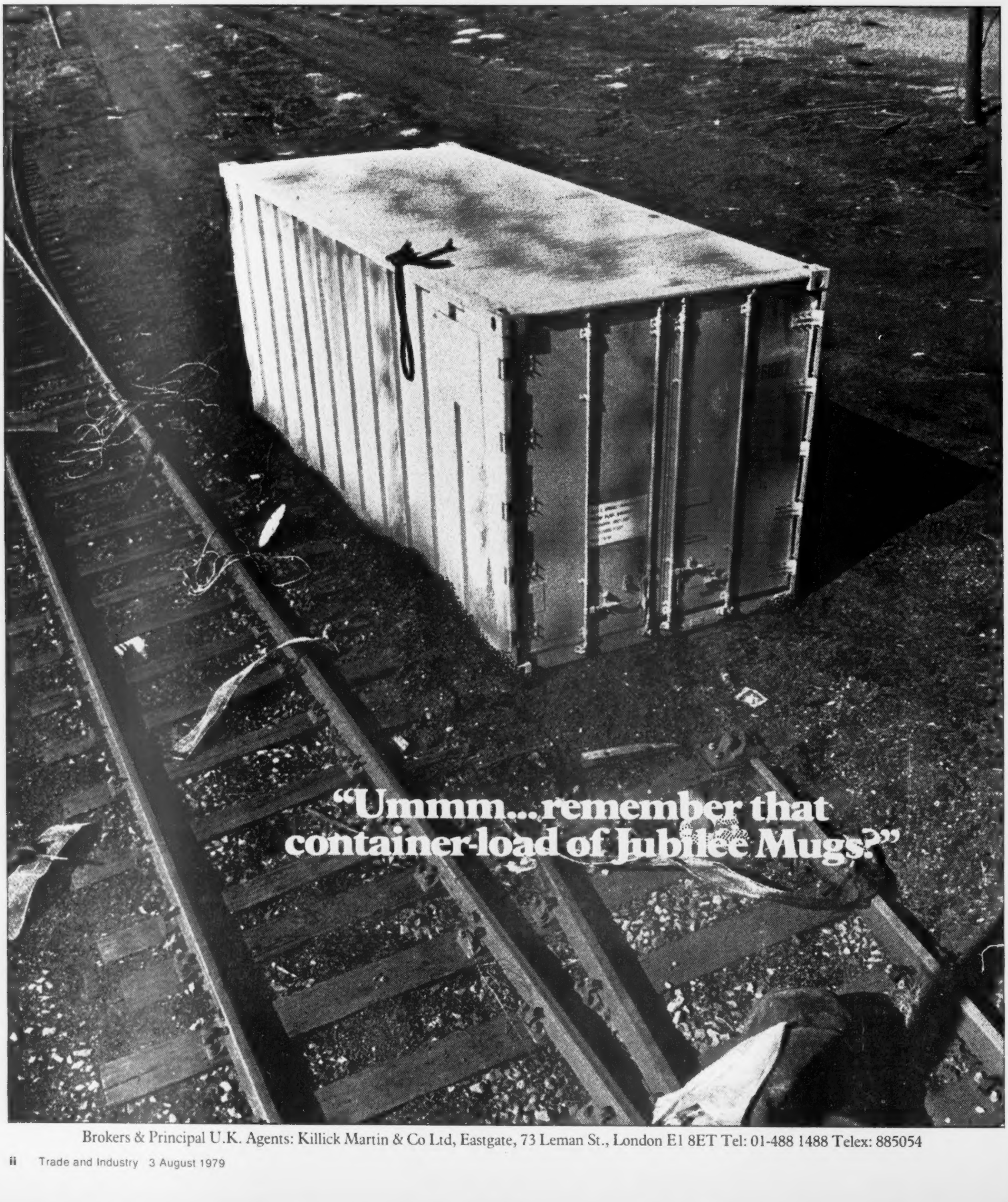

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Trade and Industry

3 August 1979

Weekly news magazine of the Departments of Industry and Trade

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EEC article 100 quarterly
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Many products are affected in the EEC's efforts to eliminate technical barriers to trade. We publish this week our quarterly checklist of Article 100 draft and adopted directives (page 258).

This week

Sir Keith warns 'anti-enterprise culture 234
Five minds on agricultural marketing 234
Onshore drilling licences 234
RTZ re-opens Wheal Jane mine 234
New chairman of Price Commission 234
Economic indicators at a glance 236

Home news

British Shipbuilders cuts trading loss 238
British Airways profits rise 238
Public offered part ownership in state oil 239
Price Commission welcomes Shell policy 239
New facility for paying oil royalties 239
Electricity Council annual report 240
Generating board makes £65.8m 240
Consumers' council launches Eric and Flick 240
Measuring systems to conform to EEC directive 240
Post Office meets profit target for third year 241
Polluters pay £34,000 for oil discharges 241
Government revises dispersal programme 242
MSC helps more job seekers 242
Financial reconstruction of National Film Finance Corporation 243
US acquisition of Alginate Industries 243
Reflectors on bicycle wheels 243
No second Heathrow-Belfast air service 243
Consumer credit licence appeal 243
Big problems for used car buyers: OFT suggests solutions 244
'Have confidence in quality' minister tells tourist chiefs 244
British Rail sets up tourist group 244
New specifications for distress flares 245
Warning on toy cigarette lighters 245
Investment in building societies down 18 per cent 245
Merger proposals cleared 245
Carriage of dangerous goods in ships 245
White fish haul nears 1m tonnes 245
Government sales 245

New publications 247

Technology news

Test drilling 'important' in radioactive waste disposal – Heseltine 248
BL sets up systems company 248
HSE guide on power press safety 249
CIA guide on vinyl chloride safety 249

New products 249

Parliament 250

European community news

Exhaustion of community revenue imminent – Tugendhat 254
UK stresses budget urgency 254
Sheepmeat proposals must satisfy UK and New Zealand – Walker 254
New Zealand butter 255
Minister gives cfp assurance to fishermen 255
Solar energy research 255
Scotch whisky exports run into legal problem 255
Energy savings depend on responsibility and initiative – commission 255
Anti-dumping duty on Spanish steel suspended 256
EEC indicative ceiling imports from Efta 256
Suspension of the CCT: other member states' requests 256
New UK permanent representative appointed 256
New EEC documents 256
Increase in 1979 magnesium quota 256
New legislation 257
Eliminating technical barriers to trade: Article 100 checklist 258

Overseas trade news

British skills still in demand – Parkinson 263
Overseas investment insured by ECGD totals £80m 263
ECGD guarantees loan for Romania's BAe 1-11s 263
BOTB sponsors 'Selling to Japan' clinics 263
Trade opportunities in western US 264
Judging panel for export travel scheme set up in south west 264
Nichols appointed to BOTB 264
Agricultural mission to east Africa planned 264
'Hints to exporters' on Iraq published 264
Talks urge more trade between UK and Czechoslovakia 265
Origin marking questioned 265

Notices to importers

1748: imports of carpets from Romania 265
Revised report on international road haulage permits 265

Country data

Australia 266, Costa Rica 266, France 266, Jordan 266, Mauritius 266, Morocco 266, New Zealand 266, Portugal 266, Sierra Leone 267, South Africa 267, Sri Lanka 267, Sudan 267, Sweden 267

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators 268
Economic indicators of the industrial countries 269
Machine tool sales and orders: April 272
Motor vehicle production in June 273
Insolvencies in England and Wales: second quarter 274
Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks in April 276
Cost indices for the aerospace and radio, radar and electronic capital goods industries 277
Unemployment and vacancies: July 277
Orders for new construction: May 278
Wholesale textile houses: Sales and stocks in May 278
Registrations of British, community and foreign films 279
Index to statistics 279

Readers' reply service 280

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Trade and Industry this week

Sir Keith warns 'anti-enterprise culture'

Britain's establishment – church, educational system, civil service and political parties – have broadly believed and taught that there is something faintly discreditable about business.

Speaking on BBC's Radio 4 on Monday, industry secretary Sir Keith Joseph said that this attitude – what he called the 'anti-enterprise culture' – said that business was fine but it was really for the tradesman's entrance and that the proper career was in a profession or in teaching, the civil service or the armed forces.

Sir Keith said that consequently we had good armed forces and a good civil service. 'But a bit too much of the talent goes into these careers rather than into what is seen as the relatively grubby and certainly difficult field of business,' he said. 'If we don't earn our keep through business we have no resources for a standard of living, or for jobs.'

Earlier, Sir Keith had spoken about the place of government intervention in industry. He said that the government's money had to come from the taxpayer and if it was withdrawn from taxpayers to sustain some jobs then the taxpayers had less money with which, by their own choice, to sustain other jobs. If people refused as customers to buy the products of a firm because they didn't want those products, it was almost tyranny to force the same people as taxpayers to pay for the products they didn't choose to buy as consumers.

'Now that operation of coercing the citizen as taxpayer to do that which he doesn't choose to do as consumer, is all right for a limited time and a tapering amount of money to help an industry, like steel or shipbuilding, to put its own house in order, but it's not a basis on which you can run a healthy economy,' Sir Keith said.

Onshore drilling licences issued

Five onshore petroleum exploration licences for areas in the south of England and Scotland were announced by energy secretary David Howell on Monday.

Two of the licences have been awarded jointly to British Gas Corporation and BP Petroleum Development Ltd. These licences, together covering 925 km², are for adjoining areas along the Dorset and Devon coasts. They lie to the west of the group's Wytch Farm field which is currently producing about 4000 tonnes of oil a month.

Two more licences have been awarded to Conoco Ltd for an area of 491 km² to the south of Greater London and covering parts of Surrey and Kent, and to a group of companies led by Carless Exploration Ltd for an area of 499 km² in Somerset and Wiltshire.

These licences authorise the holders only to search for oil and gas by prospecting and geological survey including drilling to a depth of not more than 350 m to obtain geological information. They do not confer on the licensees the right to drill for or produce oil and gas. They are valid for a period of three years and may be renewed at the secretary of state's discretion for a further period of three years.

In Scotland a group of companies, Premier Consolidated Oilfields Ltd, Tripco Petroleum Ltd and North Sea Petroleums Ltd, have been licenced to drill for and, if found, produce petroleum within an area of 58 km² around the town of Brora in the highland region.

In all cases, the licensees are required to consult the appropriate local authorities and to obtain any planning permission which may be necessary. They must also obtain the permission of the owners and occupiers of any land they may need to enter to carry out operations.

Five minds on agricultural marketing

Ann Burdus, John Cross, Detta O'Catháin, John Sainsbury and Dennis Stevenson will be applying their minds to the problem of agricultural and horticultural marketing, agriculture minister Peter Walker announced on Monday.

He had decided to scrap the proposal made by the previous government in February to appoint a committee of inquiry into the marketing of agricultural produce but he believed it was necessary to give urgent attention to improving marketing.

So he had invited five people from diverse backgrounds, not exclusively in the food or farming industries, 'but people with lively minds who will be totally free, to question and to advise over the whole range of marketing problems.'

Peter Walker flanked by four of the five marketing advisers: (from left) John Cross, Ann Burdus, Detta O'Catháin and Dennis Stevenson.

RTZ re-opens Wheal Jane mine

Rio Tinto Zinc will be investing £8.5 million to re-open and work the Wheal Jane tin mine in Cornwall, the company announced on Monday.

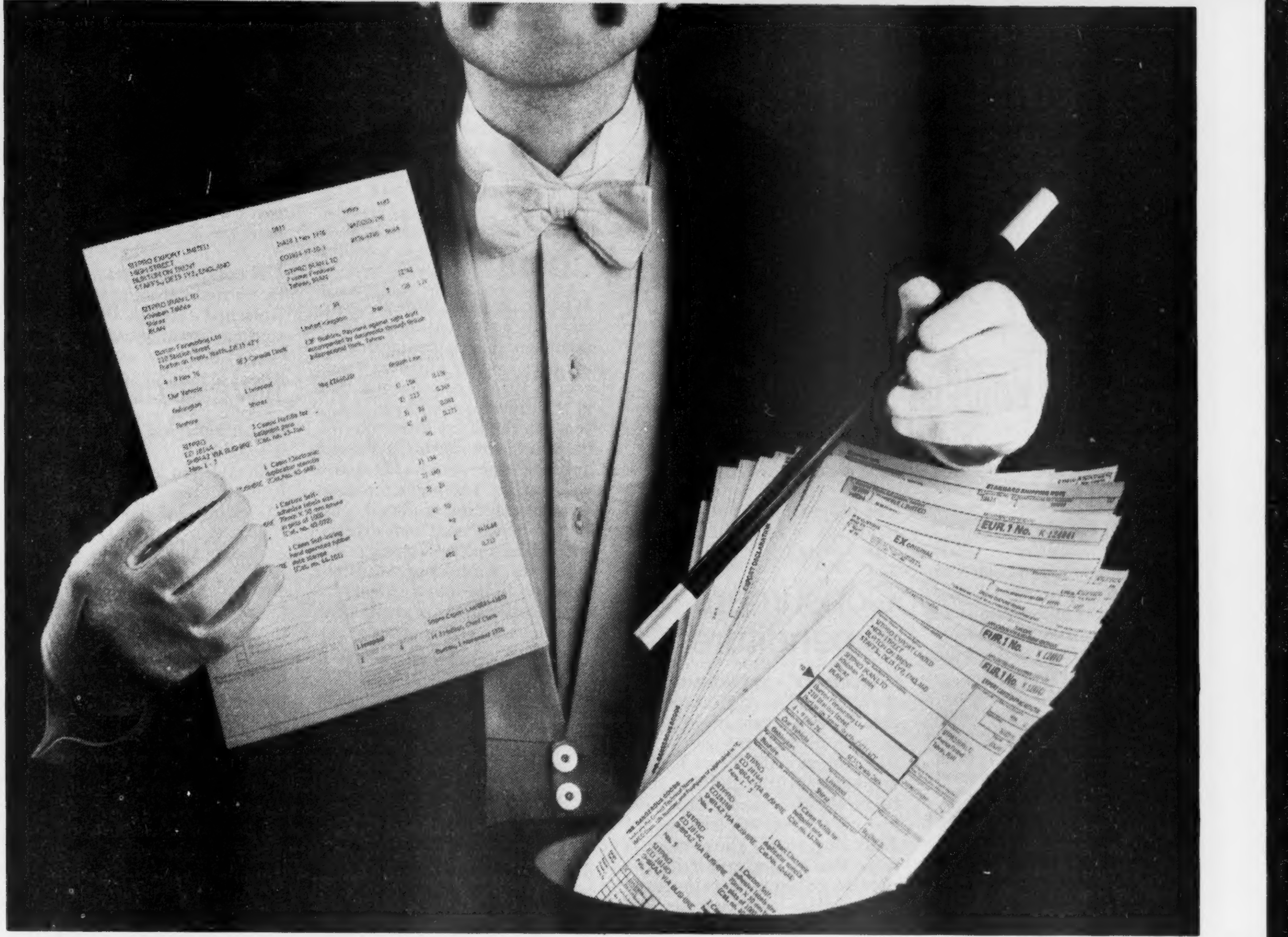
When in full production – planned for January 1981 – the mine will be employing 300 people on a permanent basis.

New chairman of Price Commission

On 1 August, Leslie Pincott became chairman of the Price Commission in succession to Charles Williams. Mr Pincott was formerly deputy chairman.

This was one of the changes in the membership of the Price Commission announced on Monday by Sally Oppenheim, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs. Roger Opie has become deputy chairman and Sir Noel Larmour has been reappointed a member. The new appointments are all part-time (one day a week) and will run to 31 December.

The appointments of all the remaining members expired on 31 July and are not being renewed in view of the progressive run-down of the commission.



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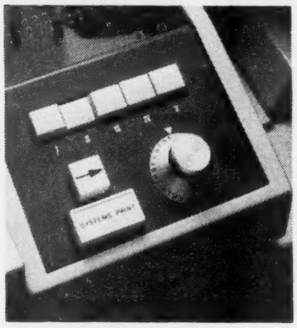

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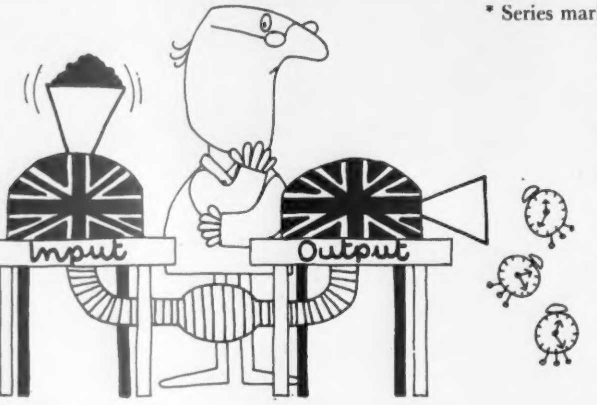
Economic indicators at a glance

* Series marked with an asterisk are not seasonally adjusted.



Output

Gross domestic product. The output measure of gdp fell by 1 per cent between fourth quarter 1978 and first quarter 1979, largely as a result of bad weather and industrial disputes, especially in the road haulage industry. Manufacturing output fell by 1 per cent and the output of the construction industry, particularly dislocated by the severe weather, dropped 10 per cent. These falls were partially offset by a rise in the output of both the gas, electricity and water industries and the mining and quarrying industries, the latter incorporating the steady growth in North Sea oil production. Within the service industries, also affected by the bad weather and industrial disputes, the fall in output of the transport industries was 6 per cent.

Index of industrial production. Provisional estimates for the first five months of 1979 suggest that, in total, the underlying level of industrial output remained much the same as it was in summer 1978, a reduction in manufacturing industries' output being broadly offset by an increase in the output of the energy sector. The provisional estimate for all industries in May is 113.9 (1975 = 100).

Consumers' expenditure

Consumers' expenditure on the first preliminary estimate, rose by 3½ per cent in second quarter 1979. There were increases in expenditure in all areas of retail sales and in particular on durable goods. Expenditure on vehicles and alcoholic drink also showed a large increase while that on fuel and light fell sharply. Expenditure in the latest two quarters taken together rose by 3 per cent and was 5½ per cent higher than a year earlier.

Retail sales. The provisional index for the volume of retail sales in June was at a record high level as a result of both pre-budget spending and high sales before the increase in VAT, announced in the budget, took effect. The increase in sales was particularly marked in non-food shops with trade in durable goods shops especially high. (The provisional index for June is, however, subject to a greater than usual margin of uncertainty.) Trade in the first half of 1979 is provisionally estimated to have been 2 per cent above that for the second half 1978.

Prices and costs

Wholesale price index* (provisional) for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry rose by just over ½ per cent in June, somewhat less than in the previous months of the year. In the latest three months the index increased by 5½ per cent and was 9½ per cent higher than a year earlier. The index for materials, excluding crude oil, purchased by the non-food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries, fell by ¾ per cent in June but in the latest three months rose by 3¼ per cent. The index for wholesale output prices for home sales of manufacturing industries has been rising much faster since the beginning of the year than in 1978 and in June rose by 1¾ per cent. Higher prices for petroleum products were a major cause of the increase. In the latest three months the index increased by 4 per cent and was 10½ per cent higher than a year earlier.

Retail prices index* rose sharply, by 1¾ per cent in June. Over a third of the increase was due to rises in the prices of food, particularly milk and bread. Higher petrol prices and the reduction in tax relief on mortgage interest payments also added to the increase in the index. The year-on-year increase rose again to reach 11.4 per cent in June. The budget changes to indirect taxes are expected to add about 3½ per cent to the RPI by the end of this year. The first stage, about 3 per cent, should be reflected in the index for July.

Terms of trade.* In the second quarter 1979 export prices rose faster than those of imports and the terms of trade index rose by ½ per cent on the previous quarter and by 3 per cent on a year earlier.

UK competitiveness, measured by normalised unit labour costs, worsened again in 1978 Q4 as sterling continued to rise.

Investment

Manufacturing industry's volume of fixed investment (revised figures) fell by less than 1 per cent in the six months ending 31 March but was 4½ per cent higher than a year earlier. However, excluding the iron and steel industry, investment increased by 1 per cent in the latest two quarters and was 9½ per cent higher than a year earlier.

Distributive and service industries' volume of fixed investment (excluding shipping) rose by about 2½ per cent in 1979 Q1.

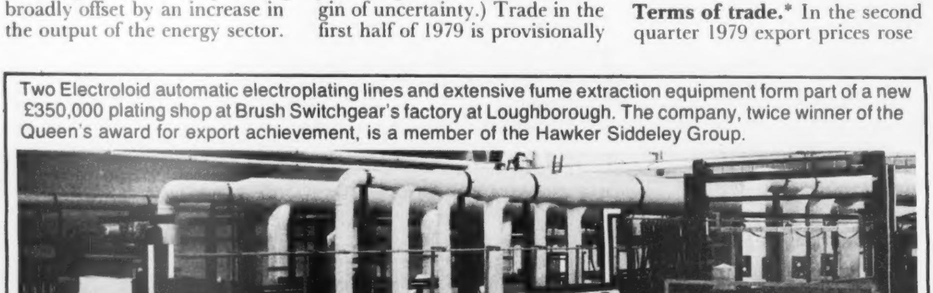
The DoI investment intentions survey carried out in April/May confirms the results of the previous surveys which indicated a further increase in 1979 in the volume of investment by both manufacturing industry and the distributive and service industries (excluding shipping). It also supports the previous expectation that the upward trend in investment will continue in 1980 for the distributive and service industries but probably not for manufacturing. The volume of investment by manufacturing, which rose by 7 per cent in 1977 and 8 per cent in 1978, is expected to increase by 2 to 5 per cent in 1979 (against 4 to 8 per cent expected by the December survey), with possibly a slight fall in 1980. Investment by the distributive and service industries (excluding shipping) is expected to rise in 1979 for the fourth consecutive year. The latest information indicates that the outcome is likely to be in the range 5 to 7 per cent, with a further increase of similar magnitude in 1980.

Incomes

Real personal disposable income (RPDI) was unchanged in first quarter 1979 but was 7½ per cent higher than a year earlier. The savings ratio fell to 15 per cent – about the average for the year ended first quarter 1979.

Average gross earnings* (new series not seasonally adjusted) rose by about 1½ per cent in May although the year-on-year increase fell slightly from 13.5 per

Two Electroloid automatic electroplating lines and extensive fume extraction equipment form part of a new £350,000 plating shop at Brush Switchgear's factory at Loughborough. The company, twice winner of the Queen's award for export achievement, is a member of the Hawker Siddeley Group.



cent to 13.2 per cent. By May about half of these workers covered by major agreements had settled and received increases, slightly fewer than a year earlier. Average earnings have increased by 9¾ per cent in the current pay round compared with 10½ per cent at the corresponding time last year, still suggesting that the outcome of the present pay round will be much the same as last year's.

Labour

Unemployment. Registered unemployment (excluding school leavers) was unchanged in July at 1,278,700 (5.3% of all employees). The level of unemployment is now about 145,000 lower than the peak at the end of 1977. This reflects the steady decline in 1978 and a further fall in second quarter 1979 after the rise in the first quarter associated with the severe weather and the transport disputes. The number of school leavers registered as unemployed (not seasonally adjusted) rose in July by 71,756 to 215,526. The level is somewhat lower than a year ago.

Unfilled vacancies (mainly for adults) notified to employment offices fell by 9,400 in July. In general the level has been rising since the trough at the end of 1975. In the latest three months vacancies were 23% higher than a year earlier.

Companies

Gross trading profits of industrial and commercial companies, excluding those engaged in North Sea oil and gas activities and net of stock appreciation, fell by over 20 per cent in first quarter 1979 as a result of the severe weather and industrial disputes. In the latest two quarters combined, profits were 6½ per cent lower than a year earlier.

Liquidity of the (large) industrial and commercial companies replying to the DoI's company liquidity survey fell appreciably in the first quarter 1979, bringing their net current assets and liquidity ratio to the lowest levels since mid-1977. Liquidity has now fallen for three consecutive quarters, after rising strongly from the third quarter 1977 to the second quarter 1978.

Net borrowing requirement of industrial and commercial companies in 1979 1st quarter was greater than that for 1978 as a whole, partly reflecting the industrial disputes in the quarter.

Balance of payments

Current account of balance of payments in the first half of 1979 was in deficit by £1,018 million. The latest figures have been distorted by the effects of the road haulage dispute and the irregular flow of information to Customs and Excise. On a 'distortion-free' basis the current account, with an erratically high level of imports, is likely to have been in deficit by around £1.9 billion in the first half 1979. There was a recorded deficit of £1,742 million on visible trade in the first half of 1979 (£290 million a month) compared with a deficit of £406 million (£68 million a month) in the second half of 1978. The projected surplus on invisibles in the first half of 1979 of £724 million contains a lower figure for the second quarter reflecting higher net contributions to the EEC.

UK official reserves* (revalued in March at market related rates) rose by $538 million in June to a record level of $22,070 million. There was also a net repayment of $50 million by the public sector under the exchange cover scheme. (Figures for July due to be published 2 August).

Volume of trade. In the first half of the year the volume of exports was 2 per cent below the level of the second half of 1978. A lower level of deliveries to Iran and Nigeria contributed to this weak performance but even allowing for this there has been some deterioration in the upward trend in export volume so far this year. The volume of imports has increased sharply in the same period with large increases in imports of chemicals and road vehicles.

DoT's survey of short-term export prospects, based on replies received from 57 large exporting companies, suggests that the total volume of UK visible exports will rise by about 2 per cent in 1979, a slower growth rate than the 3½ per cent in 1978. A rise in volume of 5 to 6 per cent is expected in the second half of 1979, following the fall in volume of 2 to 3 per cent in the first half of 1979. Respondents expected the year-on-year rise in export prices to be 13 per cent in the rest of 1979 compared with 9½ per cent in the first quarter and around 4 per cent in 1978.

Exchange rate

Effective sterling exchange rate* index rose sharply during the week and was 74.0 – the highest level for nearly 4 years – at the close on Thursday 26 July (December 1971 = 100).

Finance

Public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) fell to £2.6 billion in the fourth quarter of the financial year 1978-79. The PSBR for the full financial year amounted to £9.2 billion.

Domestic credit expansion was quite large during the banking month to mid-June and in the previous two months. In June the central government borrowing requirement was high but this was more than offset by substantial net purchases of government debt by the UK non-bank private sector: there were high sales of gilts – including instalment proceeds from a previous new issue – and sizeable purchases of Treasury bills. Bank lending in sterling to the private sector, which has more than accounted for the large DCE since the beginning of the year, grew strongly again in June – by £0.9 billions.

Sterling M3 rose by 1.1 per cent during June. The rise in £M3 of £0.6 billion was less than domestic credit expansion mainly because the banks' non-deposit liabilities rose strongly (ie their liabilities to shareholders). External and foreign currency finance showed little change this month. The increase in the reserves was offset by a further rise in overseas residents' sterling deposits and overseas holding of public sector debt. In the eight months since mid-October 1978 £M3 grew by 13.3 per cent at an annual rate – somewhat above the old guidelines. The new guidelines for the growth of £M3 from mid-June 1979 to mid-April 1980 are 7 to 11 per cent at an annual rate.

Bank of England minimum lending rate (MLR) – 14 per cent, effective from 13 June.

More information

For a backrun of figures for some of these indicators see 'The economy: selected indicators', page 262. Inquiries on any of these indicators should be addressed to Economics and Statistics Division 4B, Departments of Industry and Trade, Room 173, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 3453.

Exchange rates

The bank note rates of exchange in London on 27 July are given below. Supplied by Thomas Cook Bankers Ltd, the rates are intended as a guide only and are subject to fluctuation. OECD countries are shown in bold.

		You buy at	You sell at
Afghanistan	Afghani	125	145
Andorra	(See France/ Spain)	—	—
Antigua	E. Caribbean dollar	5.50	5.70
Argentina	Peso	2 800	3 500
Australia	**Dollar**	**2.0375**	**2.0975**
Austria	**Schilling**	**30.50**	**32.50**
Bahamas	Dollar	2.28	2.43
Bahrain	Dinar	0.88	0.9150
Barbados	Dollar	4.40	4.73
Belgium	**Franc**	**69.00**	**72.50**
Belize	Dollar	4.30	4.87
Benin	CFA	488	508
Bermuda	Dollar	2.26	2.40
Bolivia	Peso	46	56
Botswana	Pula	2.07	2.17
Brazil	Cruzeiro	65	81
Brunei	Dollar	4.92	5.12
Cameroon	CFA	488	508
Canada	**Dollar**	**2.68**	**2.75**
Chile	Peso	77	92
China	Ranimbi Yuan	Refer	Refer
Colombia	Peso	88	104
Costa Rica	Colon	19.50	21.50
Cyprus	Pound	0.76	0.80
Denmark	**Krone**	**11.98**	**12.48**
Dominica	E. Caribbean dollar	5.50	5.70
Ecuador	Sucre	59	69
Egypt	Pound	1.68	1.82
Eire	**Pound**	**1.08**	**1.12**
Fiji	Dollar	1.87	1.95
Finland	**Markka**	**8.77**	**9.12**
France	**Franc**	**9.70**	**10.10**
Germany, FR of	**Deutschmark**	**4.18**	**4.40**
Gibraltar	Pound	1.00	1.05
Greece	**Drachma**	**81**	**85**
Grenada	E. Caribbean dollar	5.50	5.70
Guyana	Dollar	10.00	Refer
Hong Kong	Dollar	11.80	12.23
Iceland	**Krona**	**900**	**945**
Indonesia	Rupiah	1 300	1 700
Iran	Rial	270	Refer
Iraq	Dinar	0.85	0.92
Israel	Pound	55	63
Italy (20 000 and smaller)	**Lira**	**1 855**	**1 940**
Japan	**Yen**	**500**	**525**
Jordan	Dinar	0.69	0.73
Korea	Won	1 200	1 600
Kuwait	Dinar	0.63	0.66
Lebanon	Livre	7.65	8.15
Liberia (see USA)		—	—
Libya	Dinar	0.90	1.25
Luxembourg (see Belgium)	**Franc**	**69.00**	**72.50**
Madeira (see Portugal)	Escudo	108.25	113.25
Malaysia	Dollar	4.92	5.14
Malta	Pound	0.77	0.80
Mauritius	Rupee	13.00	14.50
Mexico	Peso	48	58
Monaco (see France)	Franc	—	—
Netherlands	**Guilder**	**4.59**	**4.82**
New Zealand	**Dollar**	**2.21**	**2.30**
Nigeria	Naira	2.40	Refer
Norway	**Krone**	**11.80**	**12.23**
Oman	Rial	0.80	0.8450
Pakistan	Rupee	Refer	Refer
Peru	Sol.	480	610
Philippines	Piso	15.50	18.50
Portugal	**Escudo**	**108.25**	**113.25**
Qatar	Rial	8.65	9.00
Saudi Arabia	Rial	7.80	8.16
Seychelles	Rupee	12.87	13.35
Sierra Leone	Leone	2.35	2.60
Singapore	Dollar	4.83	5.09
South Africa	Rand	2.07	2.27
Spain	**Peseta**	**150.75**	**157.75**
Sweden	**Krona**	**9.60**	**9.98**
Switzerland	**Franc**	**3.76**	**3.98**
Syria	Pound	9.50	10.50
Taiwan	Dollar	85	105
Thailand	Baht	40.00	46.00
Trinidad and Tobago	Dollar	5.60	6.70
Turkey	**Lira**	**100**	**106**
Uganda	Shilling	Refer	Refer
United Arab Emirates	Dirham	8.79	9.14
USA	**Dollar**	**2.3150**	**2.3750**
Venezuela	Bolivar	9.25	10.75
Yemen Arab Republic	Rial	12	15
Yugoslavia	Dinar	43.75	45.75
Zambia	Kwacha	4.50	Refer

Where more than one rate applies to a currency, the rate given is that for small denomination notes.

Home news

British Shipbuilders cuts trading loss

British Shipbuilders made a trading loss of £49 million before interest and tax credits last year. The turnover was £810 million which included £205 million in exports. This compared with a £108 million loss on a turnover of £547 million in the first nine months to 31 March 1978.

The annual report, published on 25 July, points out that British Shipbuilders was directed by the Secretary of State for Industry to seek to contain its trading loss to £45 million. In spite of difficult trading conditions, the trading loss was kept to £49 million. This includes a £5 million provision for exceptional costs at Burntisland.

Lack of merchant orders has led to reductions in various operations. Shiprepair activities have had to be severely curtailed at Falmouth and eliminated altogether at Scott Lithgow dry docks and negotiations are progressing for a reduction of shiprepair on the Thames. Two yards – Haverton Hill on the Tees and Burntisland in Fife – have been closed.

Shipbuilding

On merchant shipbuilding, the report says the corporation 'remains convinced of the need for a long-term EEC shipbuilding policy to guard the interests of the community's shipbuilding and shipping industries and to eliminate the violently cyclical fortunes to which both have become accustomed'. Meanwhile, the international price war continues with ships being built at uneconomic prices and substantial credit packages being offered.

The report points out that administrative delays in obtaining intervention fund approval from national and EEC authorities have been a serious obstacle to British Shipbuilders' competitive position.

During the past year the corporation has adopted a more positive and systematic marketing approach by making specific proposals to UK owners on best buy ships and easy finance and by attacking overseas markets vigorously.

In addition British Shipbuilders' standing as a statutory corporation enables it to gain a foothold in certain markets – China, Mexico and India for example – by co-operating with private sector companies and government agencies.

The warship builders have a substantial work programme from the Ministry of Defence – which takes 70 to 80 per cent of available capacity – and this, says the report, should ensure high levels of utilisation of their facilities for the next few years.

However, to enable British Shipbuilders to make an even bigger impact on the warship export front three new designs have been drawn up with the Ministry of Defence. These are a new frigate (type 24) an offshore patrol vessel (OPV2) and a conventional submarine (type 2400).

Shiprepair, enginebuilding, offshore

Turning to the shiprepair sector, the report says 'even those yards which are situated at terminal ports – traditionally preferred by shipowners – have failed to obtain sufficient work to sustain capacity. Shiprepairing, unlike shipbuilding, is not assisted from the intervention fund and substantial losses have been incurred.'

Engine building has suffered from the dearth of new shipbuilding. One company – Barclay Curle – has now ceased engine building and has converted to specialist engineering as a subsidiary of Vickers shipbuilding group.

However the general engineering companies traded satisfactorily in the year. The report says they are an important complementary sector to the corporation's merchant and naval shipbuilders and provide a vital technical and research base for the industry as a whole.

British Shipbuilders has continued to strengthen its capability in the building and conversion of vessels and structures for the offshore oil industry. It acquired Vickers Offshore (Projects and Developments) and gained an order from BP for an emergency support vessel to operate in the North Sea.

British Airways profits rise

British Airways made a profit of £77 million in the last financial year – £40 million more than the previous year.

After paying a dividend of £15 million to the government, the airline retained £62 million for reinvestment in the business, according to its annual report published last week. But chairman Ross Stainton, commenting on the figures, emphasises that the result, while satisfactory in a difficult year for the airline industry, is nonetheless some £30 million short of British Airways' own target.

'Most of the shortfall is the result of events in the latter part of the year, including exceptionally bad weather in Europe and north America, the strength of the UK pound in foreign exchange markets, problems in Iran and the subsequent fuel price rises that resulted and the continuing penalty of Trident technical difficulties.'

And he sees the current year as being 'tough or even crucial' for BA. While world events served to push up costs, undeservedly, during the year the pressures of competition associated with moves to widen the low-fare spectrum have, predictably, decreased the average revenue yield per passenger in real money terms, although this has been offset to some extent by a 5 per cent increase in passenger load-factor to 64.5 compared with the previous year. There was also an 8 per cent increase in cargo carryings, with a phenomenal 25 per cent growth in intra-European traffic.

Concorde operating losses in the year amounted to almost £2 million, but much of this was due to equipment standing idle as a result of delays in clearance for Concorde flights to Singapore. Stainton remains optimistic that the Concorde fleet can be made to cover its operating costs.

Although traffic in the current year so far appears buoyant, BA is very concerned about fuel prices, which are already 70 per cent up on last year. Apart from the new fuel-economical aircraft it has on order – three additional 747s, eight more TriStars, three 1-11s, 28 737s and 19 757s – BA is looking at the possibilities of reducing the fuel consumption of its existing fleet by improved flight planning and computerised flight management systems. Next winter, at the request of the Department of Trade, it is to cut back its previously budgeted fuel requirements by 5 per cent, and this will be achieved by introducing economies in operating procedures designed to save fuel and, alongside the foreign airlines who have similar interests, by adjustment to operating programmes. And the summer 1980 operating schedules are likely to be slimmed down for the same reasons.

All six of BA's existing order for TriStar 500s – four of which are already in service – are to be extensively modified in order to reduce fuel consumption by 7 per cent, and at today's prices this programme alone is estimated to be worth about £500,000 a year for each aircraft in fuel saved.

On the ground, too, BA is instituting a number of fuel-economy measures, including the increased use of electrically powered vehicles for moving baggage, equipment and personnel around airports, estimated to save about £250,000 on the fuel bill over the year.

BA aims to be a five-type airline by 1986, operating fleets of 747s, TriStars, 757s and 737s in addition to Concorde. But the airline is concerned that unless new airport capacity is developed, the full economy of its fleet will not be realised. Stainton says that 'urgent action' is needed in both the UK and United States 'if the industry's further growth is not to be strangled' and calls for an early decision on the need and site for a third major airport for London.

Public offered part ownership in state oil

The government is to offer part of the British National Oil Corporation's offshore assets and interests to private investors, David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, told parliament on 26 July.

The government had reviewed the full range of the BNOC's activities. It had also had much in mind the serious decline in offshore activity, he said. After discussions with the chairman and the BNOC board, the government had concluded that BNOC could best serve the nation's interests in a continuing but much more limited role than at present, and that the pattern of ownership of the corporation's assets, at present exclusively in state hands, should be changed.

The BNOC was engaged in two main activities. It was an oil trader on a large scale, mainly by virtue of its right through participation agreements with other oil companies to purchase 5 per cent of most of the oil produced on the UK continental shelf. And it had a substantial enterprise in the North Sea, engaged in exploration, development and production.

'As far as the trading activity is concerned', Mr Howell said, 'the government has decided that the corporation's access to oil through the participation options should be retained. Although in conditions of major shortage I can take powers under the Energy Act 1976 to control and direct oil movements, in conditions of limited shortage, such as we are now experiencing, BNOC's direct access to "participation" oil, together with royalty oil, strengthens our position. Of course, quantity and thereby security of supply also depends on economic pricing, and that is why we have removed the price controls which we inherited.

'As to BNOC's offshore assets and interests, the government believes that those should be more widely owned. This objective can best be achieved through the disposal of assets from state hands or by the introduction of private capital into the operation. I will be making a further announcement in due course.'

The government had decided on a number of steps in the area of BNOC's exploration, development and production activities, Mr Howell added. The corporation had too many licence obligations and commitments, along with a number of privileges compared with other oil companies. These features were a source of the instability and lack of confidence that had come to characterise the offshore oil exploration scene – which it was essential for the government to change.

'The government has decided, therefore, that BNOC's preferential position in future licensing rounds should be ended, and that its present over-extended exploration commitments should be reduced', and Mr Howell said 'the government also intends to end BNOC's special access to government finance through the national oil account.

'These changes follow the chancellor's announcement that BNOC will be liable to petroleum revenue tax in common with other oil companies, and my announcement ending the previous policy of giving BNOC a first refusal whenever an interest was assigned between companies.

'I have also decided that the corporation's statutory role as adviser to the government should be removed, and that the corporation should no longer sit on every committee operating the North Sea fields where it has no equity stake. I shall be strengthening my department's resources so as to ensure that the government, in the exercise of its regulatory role, is fully able to protect vital national interests.'

Some of the changes could require legislation, which could be introduced later in the session.

'The moves announced today will in themselves encourage companies to explore more widely and to invest more confidently in development,' Mr Howell said, 'we must encourage more investment both in drilling on already licensed territory and in deeper waters on the UK continental shelf. Our decision to examine with the industry the problems of the so-called marginal fields should also be of positive help.

'In addition I am today confirming the first batch of awards of licences under the sixth round (and the announcement of further awards will follow shortly). I am also well advanced with the preparation of a seventh round of licensing.

'I believe that all this will make a major contribution to restoring a high level of exploration activity on the continental shelf after the recent very serious slow-down.'

New facility for paying oil royalties

The certificates of tax deposit scheme has been extended to cover the payment of petroleum royalties. The scheme, operated by the Inland Revenue since 1975, enables taxpayers to make provision for future tax payments and to earn interest on that provision.

Oil royalties are payable twice a year by companies with petroleum production licences. The next payment is due on 31 August. The Department of Energy will shortly be writing to all royalty-paying licensees to explain the new arrangements and will give them details of how to obtain the form needed when using certificates of tax deposits to pay royalties. Companies already holding certificates will be able, if they choose, to use them for paying any future royalties.

Price Commission welcomes Shell policy of low-profit margins

Shell's intention to continue – even in a period of short supply – its policy of high-volume low-margin sales at its own petrol stations is welcomed by the Price Commission in a report published on Tuesday. The commission believes the policy will benefit the consumer.

The commission investigated increases in the prices of Shell UK Oil's and petroleum products, which were notified last March. No restrictions have been recommended by the commission – the increases sought (a weighted average of 6 per cent) were allowed in full during the course of the investigation under the commission's discretionary powers.

Sally Oppenheim, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, has completed consideration of the report – the forty-fourth and last of the Price Commission's report of its investigations into industrial and nationalised industries.

The investigation was concerned only with the activities of Shell UK Oil – the Shell division responsible for refining and marketing oil products in this country. The exploration for the production of crude oil in the UK – the 'upstream operation' – is carried out by a separate company in the Shell group. The commission says that although the price of crude oil has increased significantly more than Shell's forecasts, the cost of North Sea production and supply has not moved up by anything like the same amount. Thus, primary producers – including the Shell upstream operation – will be making additional profits. It is thought however that current British taxation policy may to an extent neutralise the effect of the additional profits.

The investigation closely followed two other Price Commission oil company investigations dealing with Esso and BP published last month. Together the three companies account for over 50 per cent of the UK market – with Shell holding a market share of 19 per cent in 1978.

Shell had made the pursuit of more efficient trading a major objective, the commission says. It was committed to a policy at its self-owned retail outlets of high-volume throughput at low margins based on operating and distribution efficiencies. This, if persistently pursued, would be of benefit to the consumer.

The commission welcomes Shell's confirmation that the policy would continue even in a period of short supply and the commission would expect some of the benefits to be passed on to the comsumer when the oil supply and demand relationship comes into balance.

Electricity Council makes £251m profit . . .

The electricity supply industry in England and Wales made a profit of £251 million in 1978-79 – compared with a profit of £133 million the previous year – 4.6 per cent of the £5,445 million turnover. The Electricity Council's annual report published on 26 July shows that the operating profit of £675 million before paying interest and after providing for depreciation represents a return of 10.2 per cent on average net assets.

Salient features of the year's outturn, compared with 1977-78, were an increase of 13.3 per cent in income from sales of electricity, and a rise of 11.3 per cent in fuel costs in spite of improvements in thermal efficiency.

Electricity sales were 4.5 per cent higher than in 1977-78. Sales to commercial customers were again the strongest growing sector, with an increase of 7.6 per cent. Domestic sales increased by 4.2 per cent and industrial by 3.7 per cent. Because of the effects of inflation on the industry's costs it was necessary to increase tariffs by an average of 6.5 per cent during the year, but the report pointed out that since the rate of inflation was about 10 per cent there was a fall in the real price of electricity. In spite of the sharp increase in the cost of coal and oil for generation the average price of electricity has risen less than the rate of inflation over the last 30 years.

Electricity Council chairman Sir Francis Tombs announced at a press conference that quarterly tariffs would be increased by just over 8 per cent and monthly billed tariffs by about 2 per cent from 1 September. There was no alternative, he said, in view of 'swingeing increases' in fuel costs, and £20 million lost as a result of the Price Commission's decision to delay proposed increases in domestic tariffs. There would be internal economies, delays in capital programmes and revenue savings.

and generating board makes £65.8m

The Central Electricity Generating Board made a net profit of £65.8 million – just above target – in the last financial year. This is stated in the board's report and accounts, published on 26 July.

The profit, equivalent to 1.6 per cent of turnover, achieved was a little higher than budgeted for, partly because of the improved performance of the generating system and the board's efforts to contain cost increases. The result also reflected the fact that interest rates were lower than expected. These factors helped to offset the additional costs of maintaining electricity supplies during the exceptionally severe winter.

Sales of electricity during the year reached a record 219 647 million kilowatt-hours, an increase of 4.7 per cent on 1977-78.

The thermal efficiency of generation for coal, gas, and oil-fired steam stations reached a record 31.85 per cent. The availability of generating plant improved significantly, largely because of the reduced breakdown level of the large generating units. Coal consumption was a record 75½ million tonnes, including 3¼ million tonnes taken from power station stocks specifically as a result of the assisted coal burn scheme.

The board's nuclear power stations operated safetly and economically during the year, the report states. The second advanced gas-cooled reactor at Hinkley Point B was commissioned at an interim rating of 400 MW. Extended inspection procedures at the magnox nuclear stations led to some reduction in availability. Nuclear output, at 24 750 million kilowatt-hours, was 11.14 per cent of the electricity supplied by CEGB power stations, compared with 12.79 per cent last year.

In the face of growing uncertainties about the price and availability of fossil fuels the board considers it vital to be able to call upon a substantial capacity of nuclear plant to generate dependable and economical electricity supplies. It is doing all it can to secure the completion of the advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR) power stations under construction and has pressed on with preparations for a new AGR station at Heysham.

In line with government policy the board has put in hand preliminary design work for a pressurised-water reactor (PWR) power station. Before it can expect to receive approval to build a PWR station the board will have to satisfy the nuclear installations inspectorate as to the safety of the proposed plant. As part of the process the board is studying overseas experience, including the incident at Three Mile Island, Harrisburg, United States.

Glyn England, CEGB chairman, commenting on the report, said a significant improvement had been made in the operating performance of the generating system, and as a result £24 million in fuel costs was saved during the year. As the financial year 1978-79 was ending, supplies of heavy fuel oil to the board's power stations were restricted because of the upheaval in Iran and subsequent action by other members of Opec. The resulting changes in the oil supply situation had proved to be of far-reaching importance.

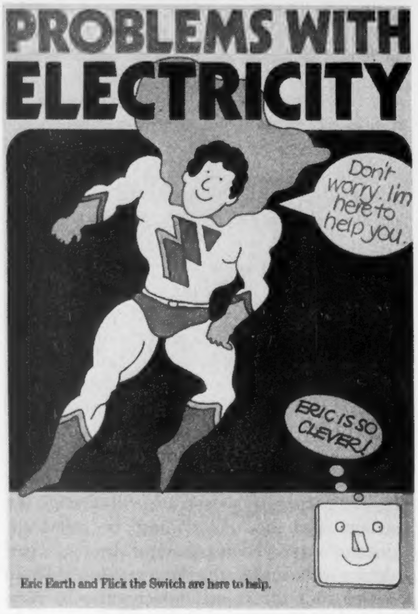
The board had made use of the flexibility in the CEGB system to switch some electricity generation from oil to coal. This was making a major contribution to meeting the government's undertaking to the International Energy Agency to reduce Britain's oil consumption by 5 per cent.

Oil burn had been reduced to the minimum consistent with maintaining electricity supplies. CEGB oil consumption in 1979-80 was likely to be 20 per cent less than last year.

Consumers' council launches Eric and Flick

Eric Earth and Flick the Switch are two characters developed for the Electricity Consumers' Council to help consumers with electricity problems.

The council says that it has plenty of evidence that the examples used in its new leaflet are real enough for many people, that people do not understand the energy consumption of their appliances and they do not know where to go for help.


PROBLEMS WITH ELECTRICITY
Don't worry. I'm here to help you.
ERIC IS SO CLEVER!

Eric Earth and Flick the Switch are here to help.

The leaflet is being circulated in bulk to consumer advice centres, citizens' advice bureaux, community relations offices, welfare rights offices, and other advice and help agencies.

'Problems with electricity' is the first leaflet to use Eric and Flick, but there will be more on specific problems, as well as posters and other publicity material.

Measuring systems to conform to EEC directive

Opportunities for greater competition in EEC markets will open up for British manufacturers of measuring systems for liquids other than water as a result of regulations published on 26 July. The regulations implement in the UK an EEC directive removing technical barriers to trade. Implementation will enable British manufacturers to obtain the benefit of the directive in other community member states.

The directive (77/313/EEC), adopted by the council of ministers in April 1977, sets out the requirements with which measuring systems have to comply in order to gain EEC pattern approval and EEC initial verification.

The Department of Trade will be responsible for the examination of patterns of systems, and initial verification of production equipment will be the responsibility of the inspector of weights and measures in whose area the manufacturer's factory is located or where the equipment is to be operated.

Post Office
Savings Bank
Telephones

Post Office meets target for third year with £375m profit

For the third year in succession, the Post Office's three businesses met the financial targets set by government, resulting in a profit of £375.1 million, an increase of £7.4 million (2 per cent) over 1977-78. Telecommunications made a profit of £347.1 million, posts £33.1 million and Girobank £4.6 million. Postal orders lost £9.7 million. The results were well within the government's cash limit.

The figures were given in the Post Office's 1978-79 report and accounts, published on 25 July. The postal result was £7.3 million down on 1977-78, but the telecommunications surplus was 6.6 per cent higher.

Turnover continued to increase, and was £436 million higher than the previous year. A positive cash flow position enabled the Post Office to invest £1,032 million in new plant and equipment and to reduce borrowings by £178 million. The corporation was self-financing in expenditure on fixed assets for the third year in succession.

Post Office chairman Sir William Barlow said at a press conference that phone charges would be held until the end of the year, following a promise he had made in April. Prices had been pegged since October 1975. But in view of inflation and rising costs, prices would have to go up before the end of the financial year on 31 March, Sir William said. The Post Office would be talking with the government before making decisions.

Basic letter prices had not been increased since June 1977, he said, after a previous standstill of almost two years. Over a period in which the increase in the retail price increase had been over 50 per cent, the increase in tariffs on the postal side had been only 7½ per cent.

Over 95 per cent of the £1,032 million invested during the year, all of which was found from Post Office cash income, was spent wholly in the United Kingdom, Sir William said. This provided a large number of jobs in manufacturing and service industries outside the Post Office.

In his statement with the report, Sir William refered to public comment about the scale of Post Office profits and how much profit was reasonable.

'The profit ratios for telecommunications, posts and National Girobank are very moderate,' he said, 'and I hope that when these results are studied by customers it will be appreciated that compared with the enormous size of the corporation, with sales of over £4,619 million, the total profit of £375.1 million (which represents about 8 per cent on turnover) is a reasonable figure', said Sir William.

Turning to the telecommunications target, which was a 6 per cent return on net assets revalued at replacement cost during 1978-79, Sir William said a capital intensive industry needed to generate the cash necessary for capital investment to maintain the service at the required level. The Post Office had reviewed the target with the government and had agreed that for the next three years it would be reduced to 5 per cent.

'In addition, we have agreed with the government that it would be reasonable, taking 1977-78 as a base, to look for a general reduction in the real unit cost – that is, excluding inflation – of telecommunications services of some 5 per cent a year between 1978-79 and 1982-83, which is a very stretching objective'.

The development of System X, the new generation of electronic telephone exchange switching equipment, had continued at full pressure, said Sir William, with important expenditure incurred in design development. System X was a co-operative development between the Post Office, GEC, Plessey and STC. A joint export company (British Telecommunications Systems Ltd) had been formed by the partners and System X would have its first major public demonstration in Geneva in September.

Sir William said at the press conference that it was a pity that the Post Office's many achievements in 1978-79 had been marred by recent internal industrial action.

But in spite of all difficulties, he said, the Post Office had provided a firm base for meeting further growth and demand next year, when progress would be made on several fronts:

☐ Telephones to increase from over 25 million to more than 27 million; telex machines to rise from 79 500 to above 85 000
☐ Prestel viewdata service to expand
☐ Installation to begin of the new computer-controlled System X telephone exchange equipment, which will give customers vastly improved service in the 1980s and beyond
☐ Progress in the use of optical fibres in the telephone network
☐ Modernisation of the oldest and most troublesome sections of underground cabling, involving an investment of millions of pounds
☐ More facilities to be offered to National Girobank customers
☐ Acceleration in the mechanisation and modernisation of the postal service
☐ More overnight flights to speed the transport of mail within Britain
☐ Customers to be given more at-a-glance guides to the latest recommended posting times.

Polluters pay £34,000 for oil discharges

Fines of over £34,000 were imposed for unlawfully discharging oil in ports last year. Of the total, 13 awards amounting to over £3,000 were made towards the cost of clearing the pollution. These figures were released by the Department of Trade on 25 July in a report on inspections and prosecutions in 1978 under the Prevention of Oil Pollution Act 1971.

During the year, the department's surveyors carried out 1566 inspections of vessels under sections 18 and 21 of the 1971 act to check compliance with the regulations on discharge of oil from ships.

A total of 46 prosecutions for unlawful discharges of oil were undertaken by harbour authorities and one by the Department of Trade for offences committed in ports; all but one of these prosecutions resulted in convictions.

Of the convictions 22 related to United Kingdom registered ships and 16 to foreign ships; the remaining eight convictions concerned discharges from land installations.

The 1969 amendments to the international convention for the prevention of pollution of the sea by oil, prohibit, except in certain specified, limited circumstances, the discharge of persistent oil or a mixture containing persistent oil anywhere at sea – by tankers or other ships.

Government revises dispersal programme

Following its review of the programme of civil service dispersal, announced on 11 June, the government has decided that three moves already in progress should continue. These are the moves of the Manpower Services Commission to Sheffield, the Export Credits Guarantee Department to Cardiff and the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas to Salisbury involving a further 2600 posts. The decision was announced by Lord Soames, Lord President of the council and minister with responsibility for the civil service, in the House of Lords on 26 July.

Lord Soames said there were two further small moves which would increase the efficiency of the departments concerned at very little cost. These were the laboratory of Her Majesty's Stationery Office to Norwich and a small group of about 90 Customs and Excise staff to Southend.

Some dispersal justified

The government had also decided, he said that some dispersal of civil service posts was justified to meet the particularly pressing needs to Glasgow and Merseyside. A total of at least 2000 posts would therefore be moved to Glasgow and East Kilbride by the Ministry of Defence and the Overseas Development Administration. The Glasgow posts would be located at the St Enoch's site. There would also be a dispersal to Bootle where there was a large building available. The full composition of this had not yet been settled said Lord Soames, but the first tranche of 250 posts would be the Home Office Computer Centre and a unit from the Property Services Agency. He pointed out that all the posts in the revised programme would be taken from the London area, and said the moves would mean a saving in planned public expenditure of well over £200 million up to 1983/84.

Lord Soames explained that the Hardman report of 1973 had produced three possible options, but the previous government had a plan which was significantly different from any of them. 'When we came into office we found it was proposed not only to disperse a further 21 000 civil service posts from London, but also 4000 from such places as Harrogate, Bath and Didcot. Such dispersal moves from places outside London were never suggested in the Hardman report and it is impossible to see the justification for them. The present programme would cost over £250 million during the remainder of the present public expenditure survey period of 1983-84, and we should be well into the 1990s before the benefits from dispersal began to offset the costs.

'Whilst I recognise that in the assisted areas the dispersal programme has been viewed as an important element in improving employment opportunities, nevertheless some of the important considerations which led to the setting up of the Hardman study no longer apply. In 1973 the civil service was expanding and the government faced the prospect of providing more offices at high London rents. This government intends to reduce the size of the service. Moreover, the gap between office rents in London and in the provinces has substantially narrowed and the long-term financial benefits of moving people out of London are that much the less.'

Revised programme

Department	Location	Approx no. of posts
Manpower Services Commission	Sheffield	1850
Export Credits Guarantee Dept	Cardiff	550
Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas	Salisbury	67
Customs and Excise	Southend	90
Stationery Office (laboratory)	Norwich	40
Ministry of Defence	Glasgow	1400
Overseas Development Administration	East Kilbride	650
PropertyServices Agency(100)	Bootle	to be announced
Home Office (150)		
Other departments		

MSC helps more job seekers

A record 1.8 million people were helped into jobs through the Manpower Services Commission's employment service in 1978–79. As well, 70 000 received training under the training opportunities scheme, 13 000 received temporary work under the special temporary employment programme, 42 000 training places within industry were given special support, and 162 200 young people were given work experience under the youth opportunities programme. The figures were published on 25 July in the commission's annual report.

A further 121 new Jobcentres were opened during the year, bringing the total in operation to 555. A survey showed that the employment service filled jobs more quickly than other formal recruitment methods and that Jobcentres were more cost-effective than other types of employment service office. Computers were introduced in some Jobcentres to match jobseekers with vacancies with greater efficiency and to circulate vacancies to other offices.

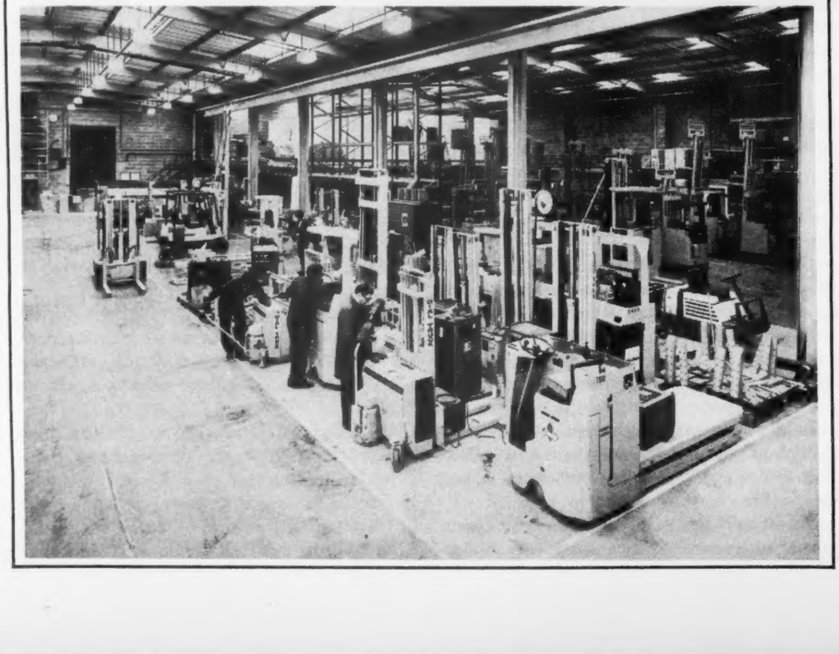
The need to provide industry with skilled manpower was the chief priority of the training services division with over 42 000 training places in industry being supported under the 'special measures' training programme. Altogether, grants totalling £90 million were allocated to the work of the industrial training boards.

The general labour market situation in 1978–79, says the report, was somewhat healthier than in the previous year, but unemployment remained at an historically high level. Recruitment remained very depressed while difficulties were still encountered in filling vacancies in certain occupations and certain regions of the country. Output per person employed rose by 2½ per cent, indicating that the long-term upward trend of productivity was resumed after the serious fall in 1973-75.

Employment increased by about 200 000, the largest increase since 1972–73, suggesting an acceleration in the recovery from recession. The increase, however, was in the service sector, notably distributive trades, catering, insurance, banking, financial and business services. Numbers employed in manufacturing fell by 65 000, with iron and steel, textiles, mechanical engineering and motor vehicle manufacturing suffering particularly large falls. The female working population rose by about 150 000, off-set by a fall of 80 000 in the working male population.

New headquarters for Jungheinrich

Moving into a new purpose-built factory at Wythenshawe, Manchester, is Jungheinrich (GB), British subsidiary of Europe's largest manufacturers of electric industrial trucks. The modern offices, workshops, training facilities, spares department and other amenities cover a total area of 25 000 sq ft. Since its formation in 1967, the subsidiary has grown from a small office, employing 12 people and producing a turnover of £50,000 for its first year of operation, to a staff of 170 working through four regional offices and a turnover last year edging close to the £10 million mark.



Financial reconstruction of National Film Finance Corporation

The National Film Finance Corporation is to undergo a financial reconstruction involving the writing off of its existing debts to government, the provision of limited money for film production from the Eady levy, consultations on raising further funds from non-government sources and the possibility of a modest, once-and-for-all government investment.

This was announced on 26 July by John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, in answer to a written parliamentary question. Mr Nott said he had a review carried out of the arrangements for financial support for commercial film production in Britain. The second report of the interim action committee on the film industry has already been presented to parliament and he had had discussions with the members of the committee and the chairman. In this discussion it was stressed that the most immediate issue was the future of the National Film Finance Corporation, though the committee continued to support the creation of a British Film Authority in the longer term.

The government accepted in principle that there was a continuing role for a body to help to mobilise finance for the production of British films of an indigenous character, Mr Nott said. 'We are not satisfied, however, that this should involve the provision of government funds on a continuing basis,' he added. 'I therefore propose that a financial reconstruction should be effected enabling the NFFC to carry on with a clean sheet, and that the purposes for which funds can be allocated to the NFFC out of the exhibitors levy, usually known as the Eady levy, should be extended so as to make a limited amount available in this way for film production.

'On this basis I propose that consultations should take place to raise further funds for the reconstituted NFFC from non-government sources. I am also prepared to consider a modest but final government investment in the NFFC to launch this operation. I hope to set out these proposals in more detail later in the year.'

The NFFC has since its establishment in 1949 received interest-bearing advances from the Department of Trade in order to make loans, to promote the production of films, both direct and through a consortium of lenders in the private sector. It also administers the National Film Development Fund, which provides loans for the writing of scripts and other pre-production purposes.

Under the existing legislation the corporation can have up to £11 million of government adances outstanding. About £450,000 remains to be drawn and it is expected that the corporation will take this up this year. To effect a 'clean sheet' would therefore involve the writing off of up to £11 million plus about £1 million interest already deferred until March 1980, plus other interest which will be due at that time.

The 'Review of policy on film finance' prepared by Sir Leo Pliatzky, permanent secretary at the Department of Trade, has been published by the department as a background paper. Copies are available free of charge from Films Branch, Department of Trade, Sanctuary Buildings, 16-20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB,tel. 01-215 3601.

The second report of the interim action committee on the film industry, chaired by Sir Harold Wilson, was published on 28 June and is now under consideration.

The government is conscious of the concern about the automatic distribution of Eady money to films which exploit sex and violence. The secretary of state is awaiting recommendations from the Cinematograph Films Council on the distribution of the Eady levy before making any decisions on changes in the distribution formula proposed by the interim action committee.

US acquisition of Alginate Industries

Two major US companies, Merck and Company Inc and FMC Corporation, are being allowed by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to go ahead with their proposals to acquire Scottish seaweed processor Alginate Industries Ltd.

In reply to a parliamentary question on 25 July, consumer affairs minister Sally Oppenheim said that the trade secretary had received the commission's report on 19 June. The commission concluded that both merger situations might be expected not to operate against the public interest.

In reaching their unanimous conclusions, the commission took into account the fact that the acquisition by Merck and Company of Alginate Industries (AIL) would result in an already large market share in alginates becoming only marginally greater. And they thought it unlikely that Merck (even having acquired AIL) would enjoy any significant degree of market power, or that if it did do so the situation would persist for long. It was clear to the commission that acquisition of AIL by FMC would have virtually no effect on competition.

Mrs Oppenheim told the house that the commission recognised that both of the proposed mergers could, in certain circumstances, have adverse consequences for AIL's employees in Scotland but they thought that the future prosperity of AIL and hence its ability to contribute to the miantenance of employment in Scotland would be more secure if AIL were acquired than if it remained independent.

Reflectors on bicycle wheels

The ban on reflectors fitted to the wheel or tyre of bicycles and other similar vehicles is to be lifted.

New regulations provide that, from 9 August, spoke-mounted and other devices are no longer illegal when fitted to the wheels or tyres of any pedal cycle, motor cycle or invalid carriage.

At present, the use of moving lights on vehicles is not allowed except in the case of dipped headlights or amber coloured reflectors on cycle pedals. This means that reflectors cannot be used legally on the wheels of a pedal cycle.

No second Heathrow to Belfast air service

The Civil Aviation Authority has turned down an application by British Midland Airways for an air transport licence to operate on the Heathrow-Belfast route in competition with the British Airways Shuttle.

At the public hearing to consider the application (held in Belfast on 24 and 25 May and London on 26 June) BMA argued that there was a substantial demand for a complementary service and that this could be met profitably. Two competing carriers would provide a wider choice for the passenger and a competitive spur for each other.

Objecting to the application, British Airways argued that the impact of a competing service would be so serious as to compel the withdrawal of Shuttle and its replacement by a conventional service. The Shuttle required a traffic flow of 400 000 passengers a year, and a higher figure if full economies were to be achieved. BMA estimated that by 1981 the total market would be 525 000 passengers and BA forecast that with a competing service its own share would decline to 356 000 passengers.

The Civil Aviation Authority accepted that Shuttle would become difficult to sustain if BA's carryings were to decline, and that reversion to a conventional service would probably be unavoidable. There was no evidence that users wished Shuttle to be replaced by some other types of service.

The Civil Aviation Authority, in refusing the BMA application, said the Belfast-Heathrow Shuttle has revealed shortcomings, but it would not lightly replace an incumbent operator on a route it was serving well. It looked to BA for a significant improvement in performance. BA had given assurances that the minimum levels of punctuality it was aiming for on the Belfast-Heathrow Shuttle were that at least 90 per cent of departures of the front aircraft should be within 15 minutes of the advertised time and the average delay should not be more than five to six minutes.

Consumer credit licence appeal

Ivan Lubin trading as Merlin Rentals

An application for a licence to carry on a consumer credit business by Ivan Lubin trading as Merlin Rentals and a subsequent application by Mr Lubin for an order validating agreements made whilst unlicensed were both refused by the Director General of Fair Trading in a determination dated 3 November 1978. Mr Lubin appealed from this determination but subsequently abandoned his appeal in respect of a validation order. Notice of the Secretary of State for Trade's directions dismissing the appeal for a licence was issued on 28 July.

Particulars of this application and appeal may be found in the consumer credit public register maintained by the Director General of Fair Trading which may be inspected between 10.00 and 15.30 hours Monday to Friday (except public holidays) at the Office of Fair Trading, 53 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1SP, tel. 01-242 2858 ext 391. A fee of 15p is charged.

Big problems for used car buyers: OFT suggests solutions

A nationwide car-clocking fraud, and a rise of over 100 per cent in consumer complaints about used cars in the last four years, are revealed in a consultative document 'Buying a used car – consumers' problems' published by the Office of Fair Trading on 26 July.

The document puts forward a number of options for tackling the abuses, giving consumers accurate information about the condition of cars and for improving guarantees.

Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, said: 'Special surveys by trading standards officers and rapidly increasing complaints show clearly that buying a used car remains the key problem area for consumers. They find it hard to judge a car's true condition and many are being seriously misled about the mileage a vehicle has done.

'The motor industry's code of practice has already accomplished a great deal but important problems remain unsolved, including the activities of the "rogues" in the trade who remain outside the trade associations and give the rest of the industry a bad name. These problems cannot be allowed to continue, and when I have reactions to my consultative document I will make urgent recommendations to strengthen the consumer's position.'

The OFT report shows that consumers buy about three million used cars from retailers each year. Complaints made to trading standards departments, consumer advice centres and citizens advice bureaux increased by 101 per cent between 1975 and 1978 reaching 52 000 last year. These are considered by OFT to be only a small percentage of the total problems caused by used cars each year. A study of complaints received by OFT and the Motor Agents Association suggests that a high proportion of consumer complaints are justifed.

The consultative document is being sent to trade associations, motoring and consumer organisations, local authorities and government departments inviting their comments by 12 October. These will be considered by OFT before it makes recommendations.

In spite of the serious problems – particularly the widespread and apparently well-organised 'clocking' of cars – the OFT says that it is anxious to avoid the creation of unnecessary and costly controls. The consultative paper suggests that the best way of dealing with present abuses would be a combination of improvements to the existing code of practice and new measures to stamp out the abuse of 'clocking' and to provide consumers with worthwhile pre-sale inspection reports and improved guarantees. Any new regulations would strengthen the director general's present powers to seek assurances from car traders or to refuse or withdraw their consumer credit licences.

'Have confidence in quality' minister tells tourist chiefs

We must all adjust to living with a stronger pound, Norman Tebbit, minister with responsibility for tourism, told the annual meeting of the chairman of the Regional Tourist Boards on 25 July.

He urged the tourist industry to 'do anything it can to improve standards of accommodation and service to match the strength of our currency.'

The government would help where it could, but this was a matter for the personal effort of everyone in the industry. 'I am sure they can all do well if they have confidence in quality.'

British Rail sets up tourist group

A tourist group has been created as part of British Rail's plans to 'become a growing force in the tourist travel industry'. Announcing details on 23 July, railways chairman Sir Peter Parker said BR aimed to increase rail passenger earnings from overseas visitors by 25 per cent between 1978 and 1980, and to boost still further British Transport Hotels' income from tourism. Last year, rail services' revenue from overseas tourist travel exceeded £24 million,

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

BRISTOL

A public auction sale of surplus government furniture and equipment has been arranged at the DOE PSA Supplies Store, Bay 5, Aston Vale Road, Bristol, Avon BS3 2HJ. The sale will commence at 10.00 hours on the 15th August and viewing will be allowed from 10.00 to 16.00 hours on the day previous.

The auctioneers are Messrs Stanley Alder and Price, 7 St Stephens Street, Bristol, Avon BS1 1EG. Telephone 0272 299151 and catalogues will be available directly from them, price 15p.

WEMBLEY AUCTION SALES 1979

7 August

View Days:	Day preceding and morning of sale
Location:	Department of the Environment Property Services Agency Supplies Stores India Pavilion Exhibition Grounds Wembley, Middx. Tel. 01-903 2508
Description of Goods:	Miscellaneous office equipment and furniture etc. (Potential buyers are advised to refer to the official catalogue available from the auctioneers, price 20p)
Auctioneers:	Messrs Hollingsworth Westcombe House 56/58 Whitcomb Street Leicester Square London WC2H 7DR Tel. 01-839 1875

while the hotels' group earned a further £7 million in foreign currency with a third of all its visitors coming from abroad.

The new tourist group had been created within BR, combining and co-ordinating the diverse activities of BR at home and overseas in the inward tourist market. It includes top level representatives of the rail passenger business, British Transport Hotels, Sealink UK, Seaspeed Hovercraft, British Tourist Authority and British Transport Hotels.

Referring to joint studies by BR and French Railways for a proposed channel tunnel, Sir Peter said this would be a fillip for attracting more tourism. 'At a total cost of £650 million, and built over seven years, this link could be with us and be a commonplace part of our transport system in the day after tomorrow.'

New specifications for distress flares

New performance specifications have been agreed for hand-held red distress flares and hand-held orange smoke signals designed especially for use in small pleasure craft.

Their introduction was prompted by reports of distress signals failing to ignite and complaints about short burning times, the variety of firing mechanisms and difficulties in identifying the firing end of pyrotechnic signals. The Department of Trade held discussions with representatives of recreational boating and lifesaving organisations, search and rescue services and the trade, resulting in the setting of new performance standards covering convenience and safety in use, waterproofing, burning time, simplicity of operation and labelling.

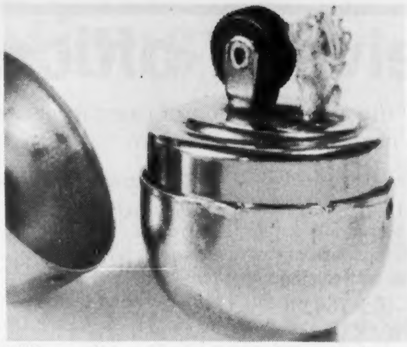
The specifications relate to distress signals for use in small pleasure craft, particularly those with no dry stowage facilities, sailing up to three miles from land and also for carriage in craft going further offshore for use in pinpointing the position when rescuers are within visual range.

The department has also introduced a voluntary scheme for testing distress signals to the new specifications. The first signals have passed the test and will be recommended for use in small pleasure craft.

Details of the new specifications and the signals which have been accepted as complying with them can be obtained from Department of Trade, CNS Branch, Sunley House, 90 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LP. Manufacturers can apply to have their signals tested to the specifications.

Bankruptcy records for England and Wales

Details of bankruptcies in England and Wales are maintained in a public search room at Room 901, Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY.
Searches can be made personally or by an agent and a fee of 25p in respect of each bankruptcy inquiry is payable at the time.



Warning on toy cigarette lighters

Consumer affairs minister Sally Oppenheim, has issued a warning to parents of children who have bought toy cigarette lighters from vending machines in recent weeks. The lighters are liable to burst into flames on ignition.

The warning follows reports to the Department of Trade by local authorities in Wales of incidents following the purchase of lighters marked 'small toy lighter, made in Hong Kong' from vending machines. The lighters are constructed from metal and are in three sections. The centre section contains a wick, a flint and a thumb wheel. The top and base are identical hemispheres and the base contains a wad of cotton wool. There is no seal between the centre section and the base and if filled with lighter fuel there is so much leakage of fuel that the whole lighter becomes covered in flame on or shortly after ignition.

Complaints so far received relate only to lighters purchased in Wales but it is not known whether they have been offered for sale elsewhere in the United Kingdom.

Investment in building societies down 18 per cent

Net intake from investors in building societies in 1978 was 18 per cent lower than in the previous year. At the end of 1978, investors held in total more than £37.4 bn. These figures are given in part 2 of the report of the chief registrar of friendly societies, published on 25 July, HMSO, £2.

Throughout most of 1978, adds the report, the investment rates offered by building societies were generally less attractive than those offered by their competitors for personal savings.

Despite the fall in the net inflow of investment funds societies nevertheless set new records in both the number of mortgage advances made (over one million for the first time) and the total amount advanced (over £8.8 bn).

Merger proposals cleared

Secretary of State for Trade John Nott has decided, on the information at present before him, not to refer the proposed acquisition by Guest Keen and Nettlefolds Ltd of Sheepbridge Engineering Ltd to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Carriage of dangerous goods in ships

An amendment to the report on the carriage of dangerous goods in ships was published on 23 July. The amendment to the Blue Book (HMSO, £4) takes account of changes to the international maritime dangerous goods code which take effect in the United Kingdom on 1 September.

White fish haul nears 1m tonnes

During 1978 the weight of white fish and shell fish taken by British vessels increased by some 67 000 tonnes to more than 940 000 tonnes, says the White Fish Authority in its annual report published on Wednesday. But the total value rose by less than £10 million to £249 million compared with the figure for the preceding year – in real terms representing a decline in earnings for the catching sector of the industry.

Referring to heavy price increases and oil supply shortages, the authority says that its 'best contribution in this threatening situation will probably lie in re-examining research and development programmes, first with a view to giving priority to those projects which can show greater fuel economy such as long-lining, low resistance trawls and electric fishing or more effective use of fuel through nozzles, controllable pitch propellers and the recovery of waste heat'.

In the long term it proposes that a close watch should be kept on development work in all related fields, especially marine engineering, to find alternative means of powering and the use of fuels other than diesel oil. The challenge in the research and development field is a very formidable one, says the report.

Government sales

14 August 1979–
Miscellaneous stores

Location
Garrison Theatre, Graven Hill, Bicester, Oxon.

Auctioneers
Midland Marts Ltd, 4 Market Square, Bicester, Oxon (08692 2073).

Furniture and household effects; Clothing and textiles; Electrical and electronic equipment; Vehicles and tyres; Forklift trucks; Machine tools and a large collection of miscellaneous stores.

Catalogue price 40p, postage 15p

Catalogues, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times etc, are available from the respective auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale.

Official Receivers' offices

Official Receivers are responsible for the administration of cases in bankruptcy and compulsory liquidation. Inquiries should be addressed to the nearest Official Receiver.

High Court of Justice
Senior Official Receiver: J. B. Clemetson

Bankruptcy
Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice,
Strand, London WC2A 2JY (Tel: 01-405 7641)
Official Receivers: D. A. Thorne; A. K. Sales

Companies Winding-up
Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD
(Tel: 01-583 8931)
Official Receivers: L. R. Bates;
H. W. J. Christmas; G. B. Gillvray.

Birmingham
Commercial Union House,
Martineau Square, Birmingham B2 4UP
(Tel: 021-236 8831/7)
P. Higgins; J. F. Hirst

Bournemouth
Burlington Arcade,
Bournemouth BH1 2JS
(Tel: 0202-28208/9)
C. G. Churcher

Bradford
West Riding House,
Cheapside, Bradford BD1 4LJ
(Tel: 0274-33651/2)
K. H. Bidmead

Brighton
Windsor House (East Entrance),
30-35 Edward Street, Brighton BN2 2JZ
(Tel: 0273-604301/2 and 688265/8)
J. F. O'Reilly

Bristol
Sun Alliance House, 4 Colston Avenue,
Bristol BS1 4BN
(Tel: 0272-290268)
D. S. Clackett

Cambridge
49 Bateman Street,
Cambridge CB2 1LT
(Tel: 0223-58911)
W. J. Llewellyn

Canterbury
Lombard House,
12-17 Upper Bridge Street, Canterbury
CT1 2NQ
(Tel: 0227-62070 and 65037)
A. Rout

Cardiff
3rd Floor, Hayes House, The Hayes,
Cardiff CF1 2UG
(Tel: 0222-30575/6 and 32381)
R. G. Waldron

Chester
Dee Hills Park,
Chester CH3 5AR
(Tel: 0244-21471/2)
K. Matthewson

Croydon
Park House, 22 Park Street,
Croydon CR9 1TX
(Tel: 01-681 2633)
R. A. D. Copper

Exeter
Eastgate House, High Street,
Exeter EX4 3JU
(Tel: 0392-36886)
A. J. Seldon

Gloucester
Grosvenor House, Station Road,
Gloucester GL1 1ST
(Tel: 0452-21658/9 and 27997)
H. W. Kirkwood

Hull
Beverley House, St Stephen's Square,
Hull HU1 3XF
(Tel: 0482-23720 and 23729)
J. E. Friend

Ipswich
St Clare House, Greyfriars,
Ipswich IP1 1LX
(Tel: 0473-56731)
B. C. Wade

Leeds
Pearl Chambers, East Parade,
Leeds LS1 5BX
(Tel: 0532-448851)
V. Duffy

Leicester
Prospect House, 94 Regent Road,
Leicester LE1 7DE
(Tel: 0533-544024)
H. Roach

Liverpool
2nd Floor, Barratt House,
North John Street,
Liverpool L2 6SZ
(Tel: 051-236 9131/2)
K. Matthewson

Manchester
Townbury House, 11 Blackfriars Street,
Salford M3 5AB
(Tel: 061-832 2471)
W. A. Bishop; F. A. Lanaway

Newcastle upon Tyne
3rd Floor, 4 St Nicholas Buildings,
St Nicholas Street, Newcastle upon
Tyne NE1 1RF (Tel: 0632-21104/5)
R. Graham

Northampton
90 Abington Street
Northampton NN1 2BX
(Tel: 0604-37288/9)
W. J. Llewellyn

Norwich
Davey House, Castle Meadow,
Norwich NOR O2D
(Tel: 0603-28983/4)
B. C. Wade

Nottingham
Severns House,
20 Middle Pavement,
Nottingham NG1 7DW
(Tel: 0602-51596/8)
H. Robertson

Plymouth
63 New George Street,
Plymouth PL1 1RD
(Tel: 0752-68554)
A. J. Seldon

Reading
PO Box No. 40, Monarch House,
75-79 Caversham Road
Reading RG1 8AW
(Tel: 0734-581931/5)
T. J. White

Rochester
Gordon House, Star Hill,
Rochester
(Tel: 0634-42603 and 46906)
A. Rout

St Annes-on-Sea
Petros House, St Andrews Road North,
Lytham St Annes FY8 2JD
(Tel: 0253-721271)
J. M. Christensen

Sheffield
8/12 Furnival Gate, The Moor,
Sheffield S1 4QN
(Tel: 0742-26691/3)
T. Wilks

Southampton
Western Range, 83-85 London Road,
Southampton SO9 1NQ
(Tel: 0703-23348/9 and 23340)
C. G. Churcher

Southend
2nd Floor, Colman House,
61 Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea
SS2 6EF (Tel: 0702-41316/7)
G. B. Sellers

Stockton
4 Bridge Road, Stockton-on-Tees,
Teesside TS18 3BP
(Tel: 0642-65598/9)
R. Graham

Stoke
London House, Hide Street,
Stoke-on-Trent ST4 1QN
(Tel: 0782-45256/8)
A. N. Percy

Swansea
5th Floor, Sun Alliance Building,
166/167 St Helens' Road, Swansea SA1
5DL (Tel: 0792-42861/3)
P. W. Nunn

Watford
40 Clarendon Road, Watford WD1 1HJ
(Tel: 0923-44288)
F. L. Sage

New publications

It's the way you work

True to its title, the International Labour Office's recently published book on work study certainly provides a good introduction to the theory and practice of the subject in its full sense – that is organisation and method as well as the more widely understood work measurement or time study. It is now more than 20 years since publication of the first edition and the latest issue has been substantially revised and updated.

The opening section reviews productivity and work study in general. It covers the environmental factors affecting attitudes to work and the motivation for improving performance and includes a discussion on human relationships at the management, supervisory and shopfloor levels.

Method study and work measurement are examined at length through a wealth of practical examples, both in the text and in supporting appendices. And, in the final section, we discover how the findings of method studies and work measurement can be translated into improved work organisation.

The whole book is very clearly set out and should provide even the complete novice with a useful introduction on the subject. It has surely by now become a basic text on the techniques and principles of work study for any student.

Introduction to work study. 3rd revised edition. International Labour Office, Branch Office, 87-91 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9LA. 1979. xiv, 442 pages. £6.25 (ISBN 92 2 101939 X).

Sharing the profits

Profit-sharing schemes were introduced into UK law by last year's Finance Act. Their underlying philosophy is to spread the ownership of capital and to encourage in employees a commitment to the enterprise for which they work. The act opened up opportunities for giving employees and directors shares in their companies at no cost to themselves but without incurring any income tax liability.

Two new books have been published to explain these opportunities against the background of existing share acquisition schemes. One of them, published by Sweet and Maxwell, is written by Geoffrey Morse and David Williams, both lecturers in law. Their stated aim is twofold: to assist lawyers and accountants advising on the introduction of a profit-sharing scheme; and to help management and employees' representatives to decide whether the new schemes will offer their companies worthwhile advantages.

Their text surveys existing schemes, and considers approved finance schemes under the Finance Act before returning to the former's potential for adoption. Appendices contain extracts from relevant finance acts and the law is stated as at 1 January this year.

The second book, is written by Francis Sandison, a tax specialist with a firm of solicitors. It follows a similar pattern and should be of interest to accountants, lawyers and other professional advisers, as well as to company secretaries, finance directors and indeed anyone needing a comprehensive analysis of a very complex subject.

The first part analyses conventional share acquisition schemes, such as share-option and share-incentive schemes, while part two explains how the new profit-sharing schemes are established and operated. There are reprints of relevant legislation.

Profit sharing: legal aspects of employee share schemes, by Geoffrey Morse and David Williams. Sweet and Maxwell. 1979. xix, 224 pages; paperback. £7.50 (ISBN 0 421 25480 7).

Profit sharing and other share acquisition schemes, by Francis G. Sandison. Tolley Publishing Company. 1979. xx, 231 pages; paperback. £8.95 (ISBN 0 510 49383 1).

North Sea perspective

North Sea developments have generated a huge literature. By now our experience in all matters relating to the extraction of oil and gas from so hostile an environment has developed substantially from the early days of exploration. So, the appearance of another survey on the subject is most timely and 'in perspective' is perhaps the most significant part of the title of Wood Mackenzie's new report. It is a succinct summary of the huge industrial and economic experience of actually operating in the North Sea over the past decade: the first well commercial discovery was made by BP in December 1965 when the West Sole gas field was found, and in December 1969 a commercial oil discovery was made in the Montrose field.

Wood Mackenzie and Company is well-known for its authoritative North Sea information service which provides regularly updated information on offshore activity and related developments. This recent report aims to provide an overall view of developments by giving an informed assessment of the present situation in the North Sea and estimating future trends and their relevance to the UK.

It looks first in some detail at the technical aspects of North Sea development, covering exploration, and various project developments in terminals and drilling. The authors then examine the government's position as it was immediately before the election, including its role vis-á-vis the British National Oil Corporation, and make an in-depth analysis of the economic background to the subject. There are some useful appendices supplying the background figures used in the text, listing key statistical information, including estimated reserves, oil and gas production, expenditure and cost.

The North Sea in perspective. Wood Mackenzie and Company, 68-73 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 4NS. 1979. iv, 83 leaves; ringbound. £95.00.

Having your apple . . .

Multinational companies can, in principle, receive considerable advantages from operating under diverse national laws. To take an example – if a company grows apples in Britain and makes them into cider in Canada, then the price at which apples are transferred from the British to the Canadian division will affect the levels of profit achieved in the two countries. If the Canadian profits tax is levied at a higher rate than the British it will pay the multinational to transfer the apples at a high price so that most of the profit is made in the lower tax country. Suitable transfers of invoices (even if not of apples) through a division in a Ruritanian tax haven could reduce the tax even further.

Of course, governments are wise to these manoeuvres and try to control the multinationals both individually and collectively. Recent international opinion on transfer pricing and its use by multinational corporations forms the subject of a book by Sylvain Plasschaert, published in conjunction with the European Centre for Study and Information on Multinational Corporations. Professor Plasschaert reviews much of the work that has been carried out in this area and discusses many of the complex issues involved – such questions as the effects of management constraints, government measures and conflicting inducements.

The author is a professor at the University of Antwerp and one has the impression that the book was not written originally for an English readership. It reads a little as though it was translated from another language and its format implies that it does not flow easily from one topic to the next. However the points are generally quite well made, and academic economists will be pleased with the professor's conclusion that this is an area where far more research is required.

Transfer pricing and multinational corporations, by Sylvain Plasschaert. Saxon House, Teakfield Ltd, 1 Westmead, Farnborough GU14 7RU. 1979. 120 pages, £8.50 (ISBN 0 566 00260 4).

Selection of publications for review on this page does not necessarily reflect the views of the government, nor do the opinions expressed. Inquiries and submissions for review should be sent to *Trade and Industry*, New Publications Page, Room LG 17A, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 4136.

Technology news

Test drilling 'important' in radioactive waste disposal – Heseltine

Setting out the government's views on research into the disposal of high-level radioactive waste Secretary of State for the Environment Michael Heseltine has emphasised the importance of test drillings in deciding whether disposal deep underground is a feasible option.

Replying to a parliamentary question on 24 July, he said that so far the drilling programme had concentrated on areas containing hard crystalline rock, and it was intended that the next group of planning applications for drilling test bore-holes would also include areas of clay or salt or both. Only when full information was available, and had been properly evaluated, would it be possible to judge whether or not disposal deep underground was an option to be pursued; and, if it was, which of the rocks would be most suitable.

The United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority had so far made four planning applications under the Town and Country Planning Acts to carry out preliminary geological investigations involving the sinking of test boreholes in selected areas, he said. One application, in Caithness, had been granted; one in the Kyle and Carrick District of Strathclyde Region, and two in Northumberland, had been refused.

Mr Heseltine said the authority had submitted appeals against the refusals in Northumberland and Kyle and Carrick, and the Secretary of State for Scotland had recently announced the setting up of a public local inquiry into the authority's appeal in the Kyle and Carrick District. Appeals would be decided on their merits, he said, after the careful assessment of all the evidence.

Vitrification: but where to store it?

Mr Heseltine emphasised that the applications concerned operations which were solely for geological investigation. There was no question of carrying out experiments with radioactive wastes in this phase. Nor had the government made any commitment to disposal of waste underground rather than on, or under, the sea-bed. There should be no permanent environmental effect of any kind from the geological research.

The four applications related to the first few of about 15 areas which had so far been identified in England, Scotland and Wales as likely to provide useful information about the structures and characteristics of the relevant geological formations. Mr Heseltine said all exploratory work, including test borings, in any area, whether or not on land owned by the crown or by a government agency would be the subject of appropriate planning procedures and publicity would be given to the proposals.

When research had been conducted for about 10 years, the government expected to have obtained sufficient information to enable decisions to be taken about the development of demonstration disposal sites underground or on, or under, the ocean bed. These would be fully engineered, he continued, and in the case of land facilities would involve the construction of access shafts deep into the selected formations. There was no question of each of the 15 areas chosen for the geological research programme being developed to this stage. At the most, two or three sites would be selected, he said. Vitrified waste would be placed in the demonstration disposal sites so that detailed measurements and tests under operating conditions could be made. For the first time radioactive wastes would be used; at the end of the tests the wastes could be recovered if required, he stressed.

Mr Heseltine said any proposals for demonstration disposal of radioactive waste deep underground would be the subject of separate appropriate planning procedures which would investigate thoroughly the effect of the site on the environment. If, in the event, it were decided to go ahead with the development its operation would be studied over a further period of perhaps 10 years. At the end of that time, underground disposal methods would be evaluated side by side with alternative disposal methods on or under the ocean bed. Decisions could then be taken, he said, whether and how to proceed with a full-scale disposal operation in the next century.

Mr Heseltine explained that research on one of the major options for the treatment of high-level waste for safe disposal – vitrifying the waste in glass blocks – was well advanced in the UK and a plant to manufacture these blocks should, on current plans, start by about 1990. The blocks would probably need to be stored in water – or air-cooled vaults – for some years, but after cooling they would be suitable for disposal. Several methods of disposing of them safely were being researched, but had yet to be demonstrated.

The three possible methods of disposal were on the bed of the deep ocean, into stable geological formations on land, or under the ocean bed and Mr Heseltine said no judgement could be made between these methods until more was known about them. The government was, accordingly, undertaking a comprehensive research programme into each of the options. The work so far supported the view that a safe disposal route could be identified but at this stage there was no commitment to any one method in preference to the others. The aim, Mr Heseltine said, was to have a demonstration facility, or facilities, for one or more of the methods in operation during the 1990s with a view to having an actual disposal facility in operation early in the next century.

BL sets up systems company

BL Ltd is setting up a wholly owned subsidiary company, BL Systems, which not only will provide a comprehensive systems service within BL, but also will sell services outside the company.

BL Systems will offer the following services to its customers: computer systems development; data processing operations; communications network planning and management; operational research; systems and computer training; and technical computing.

At the start the new company will have its headquarters at the Cars Data Centre, PO Box 5, Redditch, Worcestershire, which has one of Europe's most advanced and powerful computer centres. Its five interlinked computers are connected through a microwave communications network to a large number of terminals, mini-computers and micro-computers in BL factories and offices across the UK.

BL believes that by organising the systems function as a separate unit, BL will be better able to use and direct the scarce technical skills in an area of rapidly changing and expanding technology. In addition to the normal commercial applications in most businesses, systems staff in BL have already developed very advanced computer systems and they will be installed in other customer areas. These include: 'See why', a simulation tool developed by the operational research activity, which gives a real time simulation of any interconnected processes on a colour graphics display;

a comprehensive mini-computer based press-shop monitoring system; a sophisticated set of minicomputer systems developed initially for the new Mini Metro; dealer systems to support BL franchise holders; and microcomputer systems to support inventory management, production control and stores functions.

HSE guide on power press safety . . .

As part of a major exercise to revise, up-date and collate into one comprehensive manual information issued by the joint standing committee (JSC) on safety in the use of power presses, a summary of more than 30 years work by the JSC was published by the Health and Safety Executive on 12 July.

This summary report gives some of the earlier information and is divided into six separate sections, each dealing with a single aspect. It is intended, says the JSC, to add additional sections as investigations continue into new aspects or reviewing old ones.

General matters

The report deals with general matters affecting press safety, with electrical equipment, arrestor brakes, clutches and brakes, guarding systems and safety in toolsetting and tool try-out but does not cover the use of photo-electric safety devices. Further sections covering press-tool design and safeguarding of press brakes are currently being prepared by sub-committees of the JSC.

The summary report 'Power press safety: standards prepared by the joint standing committee on safety in the use of power presses' is available from HMSO, price £1.50 plus postage.

and CIA guide on vinyl chloride safety

A code of practice on precautions against fire and explosion in vinyl chloride manufacture is set out in the latest in a series of 'Guides to safe practice for chemicals', published by the Chemical Industry Safety and Health Council (Cishec) of the Chemical Industries Association (CIA).

Protection

Protection of both the public and employees from the potential dangers involved in manufacturing and using vinyl chloride depends upon how plants are designed, built and run, says CIA. The aim of the guide is to show the approach needed for the safe building and operating of plant that makes and uses vinyl chloride. Its primary intention is to reduce to the absolute minimum the risk of escapes which could have serious consequences both inside and outside the works.

Included in the 20-page guide are sections on plant design, management, operation and training, procedure for dealing with leaks, spillages and fires, emergency procedures and equipment. It is available, priced £2, from CIA Publications Department, Alembic House, 93 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TU.

New products

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Industrial magnifiers with lightweight lenses

A range of three industrial magnifiers, introduced by Combined Optical Industries Ltd, Slough, uses lightweight shatterproof acrylic lenses which provide a distortion-free image over the entire viewing area.

The magnifiers – models 5160, 5150 and 5140 – share a magnifier head which is moulded from rigid foamed polyurethane, with a grey stove enamelled hammer finish.

Mounted within the head is the 165 mm by 105 mm moulded acrylic lens which is of aspheric design and is said to be half the weight of an equivalent glass lens. With a magnification of approximately X1.8, the lens is large enough to permit viewing with both eyes to minimise strain.

The magnifiers are also available in illuminated versions housing two built-in 4 W fluorescent tubes in aluminium reflectors. On/off and start switches are incorporated in the lens frame. The models are available in either 230/250 V or 110 V versions and ultra-violet (uv) tubes may be fitted.

Model 5160 is a free-standing general purpose magnifier with an adjustable lens position in both horizontal and vertical planes. Model 5150 is a lightweight bench magnifier, mounted on a tubular stand to provide extra clearance for the inspection of large objects. The lens angle is adjustable. Model 5140 is supplied without stand. The magnifier is specially designed for use in situations requiring specialised mountings, such as inspection equipment.

Further information: circle 562

Rolls-Royce powered generating sets

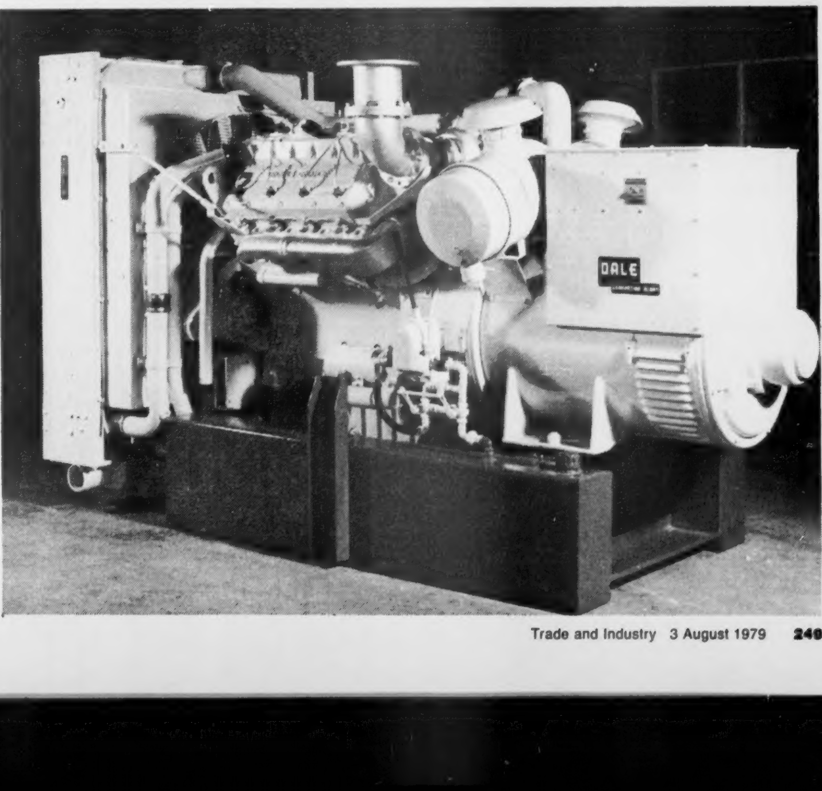
Latest Dale generating sets in the Conquest range are based on the compact but powerful Rolls-Royce CV8 diesel engines. A continuous output of 250 kVA is provided by the CV8T powered unit and with charge air after cooling an output of 315 kVA is available at 50 Hz. Corresponding outputs at 60 Hz are 275 kVA and 347 kVA.

Low weight and small size, for the power output available, enable savings to be made in the costs of the base frame, canopies and shipping.

The turbocharged 90° vee four engine and alternator are mounted onto a fuel tank/bed-plate via anti-vibration mountings. Facilities are provided for filling the 75 gallon fuel tank either by normal means or by pumping from 45 gallon drums.

Sets are designed for fully automatic mains failure operation or as standard electric start systems with switchgear supplied as a free standing unit or mounted on the set.

Further information: circle 563



Parliament

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Sir Keith Joseph
Ministers of State: Adam Butler
Lord Trenchard
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Marshall
David Mitchell

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: John Nott
Ministers of State: Sally Oppenheim
Cecil Parkinson
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Norman Tebbit
Reginald Eyre

Monday, 23 July

Regional development and selective assistance

Kenneth Baker (City of Westminster, St Marylebone) asked how many firms were in receipt of regional development grant and selective assistance in 1972-73, 1973-74, 1974-75, 1975-76, 1976-77, 1977-78 and 1978-79; and how many jobs were estimated to have been saved or created in each of these years by payment of regional development grant and payment of selective assistance.

Mr Mitchell said that information on the number of firms obtaining regional development grant under part I of the Industry Act 1972 was not readily available. Such grants were not, in any case, linked to employment.

The number of firms and undertakings receiving offers of assistance under part II of the Industry Act 1972 was:

Year	Section 7	Section 8
1972-73	111	—
1973-74	795	13
1974-75	731	127
1975-76	766	169
1976-77	939	546
1977-78	1 038	836
1978-79	1 116	1 948

Information was available on the estimated employment associated with projects supported under section 7 of the 1972 Industry Act, but the proportion of these projects which would have gone ahead without assistance is not known. Under the new criteria for section 7, the government would ensure that assistance was provided only for those projects where it would be clearly demonstrated that it was needed for the project to go ahead, and would provide more efficient and secure jobs.

Grants under section 8 of the act were not directly linked to employment.

ERDF grants

David Knox (Leek) asked what was the value of grants towards projects in England received from the European regional development fund since 1975.

Mr Mitchell said the total of £130.2 million included £55.8 million for industrial projects and £74.4 million for infrastructure projects.

Aids to steel industry

Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked which financial aids to the United Kingdom steel industry would be discontinued following the acceptance by the government of the EEC code governing national aids to steel industries.

Mr Marshall said the government was still considering the decision but had no reason to believe that accepting it would lead to any particular form of aid being discontinued. Individual cases would be judged by the European commission against community criteria.

Reorganisation of iron foundry industry

Betty Boothroyd (West Bromwich) asked what plans there were for a reorganisation of the iron foundry industry.

Mr Marshall said there were no such plans. It was for the industry itself to plan its own future. However, the existing scheme, under section 8 of the Industry Act, aimed at assisting foundries with their modernisation projects would be allowed to run its course.

Concorde use

Cranley Onslow (Woking) asked what was preventing the release for airline use of the remaining Concorde.

Mr Marshall said that of the two unsold British assembled Concordes, one had been allocated to British Airways and was currently being modified to British Airways fleet standard. A decision on the other awaited the development by British Airways of financially acceptable proposals for its utilisation.

Tentmakers' troubles

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what representations had been made to the Department of Industry by the United Kingdom tent manufacturing industry; what assistance had been granted to the industry and if a statement issued by the EEC tent making industry had been received by the department.

Mr Mitchell said there was close and regular contact between the Department of Industry and the Made-Up Textiles Association, the trade association which includes tent-making among the industries it represented. The government was fully aware of the difficulties facing this sector.

In the last 18 months the industry had been offered some £35,000 in selective financial assistance, and was likely to have benefited from regional development grants, although details are not readily available.

A copy of the statement issued by the EEC tent makers after their meeting on 17 January was sent to the department. It raised several issues.

As far as imports from low-cost sources were concerned, tents were dealt with under the regime applied by the community to textiles and clothing generally under the multifibre arrangement and associated measures.

The government was concerned to ensure that these arrangements were applied by the community as effectively as possible, for tents as for other textile and clothing products. However, there was no prospect of any special treatment for tents outside these arrangements, and it would not be practicable to re-negotiate the bilateral agreements which had been reached with supplying countries. However the proposals in the statement would be borne in mind when the arrangements that would succeed the current mutlifibre arrangement when it expired at the end of 1981 were considered.

The statement referred to origin labelling for tents. While there was no universal origin marketing requirement under existing legislation, imported goods sold under a UK mark or anything likely to be taken as such were already required to be accompanied by a conspicuous indication of their origin. However the points made by the industry in the statement had been noted.

On the question of community rules of origin for tents, Mr Mitchell said, following detailed discussions with the industry, new EEC non-preferential origin rules for sails and tents had been agreed in Brussels and it was expected that the new regulations would be published in the *Official Journal* shortly.

Microelectronic training

Les Huckfield (Nuneaton) asked what representations had been received from the Trades Union Congress for a microelectronic training programme.

Mr Mitchell said the Department of Industry had agreed to support a TUC microelectronic education and training programme covering some 65 000 union officers and representatives.

Waste committee

Les Huckfield (Nuneaton) asked what was the future of the waste management advisory council.

Mr Mitchell said the government's current planning envisaged the continuation of the waste management advisory council.

Annual return enforcement

Robin Squire (Havering, Hornchurch) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, in view of the fact that many limited companies were failing to file annual returns or supplying accounts, and that action against them by his department only appeared to follow complaints from consumers or third parties, if he would make a statement of his policy on this matter.

Mr Eyre said enforcement action was not limited to cases where there had been complaints. In the last 12 months, about 12 000 reminder letters were issued following complaints and about 200 000 because records indicated that returns or accounts were overdue. In the same period, 613 directors were convicted on charges involving default: fines and costs imposed exceeded £155,000.

UK-EEC investment

Peter Shore (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar) asked for the total direct investment by UK firms in the six original members of the EEC in each year since 1970, and what had been the total direct investment of the EEC six in the UK in the same period.

Mr Parkinson gave the following information:

£ million

	Direct UK investment [1] in the six EEC countries [3]	Direct investment [2] by the six EEC countries [3] in the UK
1970	77.8	50.7
1971	262.5	35.1
1972	223.3	38.1
1973	463.5	102.5
1974	291.2	77.6
1975	118.1	61.3
1976	444.8	102.9
1977	301.0	261.6

[1] Excludes investment by oil companies. [2] Excludes investment oil and insurance. [3] Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, and Netherlands.

US acceptance of MTN

Gavin Strang (Edinburgh East) asked when the United States of America might ratify the package agreed in the recent general agreement on tariffs and trade.

Mr Parkinson said the Trade Agreements Bill of 1979 to incorporate the results of the multilateral trade negotiations (MTN) agreements into United States' law was currently before Congress. If it was approved, as the government hoped, the United States could be expected to be prepared to signify its acceptance of the MTN package, by signature, towards the end of the year, in time for the main agreements to come into effect on 1 January 1980.

US tax on Scotch whisky

Gavin Strang (Edinburgh East) asked what was the average duty on a bottle of Scotch whisky imported into the United States and in the absence of any other tax changes by how much that duty would be reduced by the elimination of the wine gallon method of assessment (WGA).

Mr Parkinson said a 75 centilitre bottle of Scotch whisky imported into the United States at 86.4° US (74.6° Sykes) carries a customs duty of 10 cents and internal revenue tax of $2.10; a total of $2.20. Abolition of WGA would reduce the total tax to $1.90 (86.4 per cent of $2.20), a saving of 30 cents.

Weights and measure equipment delays

John Fraser (Lambeth, Norwood) asked what was the present delay between the presentation of a new pattern for weights and measures equipment and its approval, what effect on the delay came from the public expenditure reductions and the moratorium on recruitment of civil servants.

Mrs Oppenheim said the delay before examination started of new patterns of weighing or measuring equipment is currently averaging 16 months, within a range of from 12 to 19 months. Public expenditure reductions were unlikely to affect the delay period which arose mainly from a shortage of engineers. The moratorium on recruitment did not apply in this sector and the government was continuing to seek to recruit staff to fill the vacancies.

Tuesday, 24 July

Insurance advisory panel

Michael Brotherton (Louth) asked what were the activities of the insurance advisory panel, how many people it employed, *what was the cost to public funds in the latest year for which figures were available.*

Mr Eyre said the insurance advisory panel, consisting of 17 people with a wide range of experience in insurance matters advises him, as and when asked to do so, on the exercise of powers under the Insurance Companies Act 1974. The panel had no employees and secretarial services were provided as part of the normal duties of officials in his department. The appointments were unpaid but travel and subsistence costs were met from public funds. In 1978-79 these amounted to £115.45.

Small package weight marking

John Carlisle (Luton West) asked if steps could be taken to ensure that items weighing less than 1 oz had the weight disclosed on packing.

Mrs Oppenheim said she had no plans for any substantial changes to the exemption limits, which were maintained for practical reasons. All weights and measures acts since 1926 had specifically exempted small packages from quantity marking. To require goods sold in such small quantities to be weight marked would usually involve additional costs and thus raise prices.

VAT-inclusive labels

Derek Foster (Bishop Auckland) asked if steps could be taken to arrange for prices and value-added tax to be separately indicated on labels and receipts for all goods and services.

Mrs Oppenheim said she was keeping this matter under review. However, the consumer protection advisory committee recommended that, generally speaking, prices displayed to consumers should be VAT-inclusive. As far as commercial customers were concerned, she understood that VAT was normally shown separately on invoices.

National Giro bank

John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich East) asked whether it was still the policy that the Post Office, in developing the National Giro, should provide a wide range of banking services in addition to a Giro payment system.

Mr Marshall said the Post Office was responsible for the management and development policy of the National Girobank, although the government expected Girobank to compete on equal terms with other financial institutions providing similar services. He had been advised by the Post Office that its policy was to develop National Girobank to achieve growth compatible with financial targets agreed with the government, and to provide a nationwide banking service to corporate and personal customers using Post Offices as branch outlets. This policy would include continued development and extension of the range of banking facilities in response to customer demand.

Ship orders placed abroad

Ernie Ross (Dundee West) asked what was the value of the tonnage of orders for ships placed by British companies at overseas yards in each of the past three years.

Mr Marshall said that the value of orders placed by British companies for merchant ships of 100 gross tons and over for UK registration in overseas yards was 1976, £130 million; 1977, £71 million and in 1978, £104 million.

Shipbuilding productivity

Mr Ross (Dundee West) also asked what had been the annual increase in productivity achieved by the shipbuilding industry in each of the last three years and how did this compare with the corresponding figure for manufacturing industry as a whole in Great Britain.

Mr Marshall said the following was the information for the United Kingdom; figures for Great Britain were not available.

UK INDEX OF OUTPUT [1] PER PERSON EMPLOYED

1975 = 100

	1976	1977	1978
Shipbuilding and marine engineering	96.2	93.4	87.5
Manufacturing industries [2]	104.6	105.1	106.4

[1] Output as measured by the index of production. [2] Source: *Department of Employment Gazette.*

Concorde development

Robert Atkins (Preston North) asked what was the latest estimate of the development and production costs of Concorde and production receipts, and what was the net government commitment to production expenditure.

Mr Marshall said the latest estimate of the manufacturers' total development costs in Britain and France was £1,129 million. The expenditure was divided as follows between actual past expenditure and estimated future expenditure:

£ million

	British expenditure	French expenditure	Both countries
Actual costs from 29 November 1962 to 31 December 1978 at the prices and exchange rates prevailing when the costs were incurred	552	543 (6 415 million francs)	1 095
Estimated costs from 1 January 1979 to completion of programme at January 1979 prices and at an exchange rate of £1 = 8.5 francs	21	13	34
Total	573	556	1 129

The latest estimates of the manufacturers' total production costs to the end of 1979 were £387 million in the UK and 3,429 million francs in France. This was divided between actual past expenditure and estimated future expenditure as follows:

	Britain (£ m)	France (Fr. m)
Actual cost to 31 December 1978 at the prices and exchange rates prevailing when the costs were incurred	346	3 209
Estimated costs from 1 January 1979 to 31 December 1979 at January 1979 prices and at an exchange rate of £1 = 8.5 francs	41	220
Total	387	3 429

Without taking account of possible receipts from further sales or leases, the latest estimates of the manufacturers' receipts from the sale of aircraft, and from the sale or lease of engines and spares to the end of 1979 was £146 million in the UK and 1,535 million francs in France. This was divided between actual past receipts and estimated future receipts as follows:

	Britain (£ m)	France (Fr. m)
Actual receipts to 31 December 1978 at prices and exchange rates prevailing when income was received	129	1 494
Estimated receipts from 1 January 1979 to 31 December 1979 at January 1979 prices and at an exchange rate of £1 = 8.5 francs	17	41
Total	146	1 535

At 31 March, the government's net commitment to Concorde production expenditures stood at £282 million, and net expenditures at £224 million.

Map workshop programme

Les Huckfield (Nuneaton) asked what firms of consultants were involved in the development of the Map workshop programme, by what means they were selected, and what had been the cost per capita of the programme.

Mr Mitchell said PA Management Consultants had been chosen in December 1978 by means of a selective tender. Although the workshop programme was not yet entirely completed, it was estimated that the per capita attendance cost of the programme to the department would come to around £200.

Microelectronic training course

John Grant (Islington Central) asked how much the government had spent under the microprocessor applications programme to develop training courses and how many courses and training places had been created.

Mr Mitchell gave the information set out in the following tables:

1 APPROVED PROPOSALS BY TYPE OF INSTITUTION

	Number of proposals	Amount of grant (£)
Universities	14	710 354
Polytechnics	12	293 701
Further education and higher education	14	205 326
Research associations	2	114 002
Private sector	15	443 784
	57	1 797 167

2 APPROVED PROPOSALS BY DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

Region	Number of proposals	Amount of grant (£)
Northern	—	—
North-west	11	209 775
Yorkshire and Humberside	7	160 576
East midlands	7	102 402
West midlands	1	22 900
South west	2	15 892
London and south east	13	535 131
Eastern	7	148 948
Scotland	2	26 414
Wales	2	3 175
Northern Ireland	1	2 350
National bodies	4	569 604
	57	1 797 167

The numbers of training places created were estimated to be 2363 in 1978-79, 16 129 in 1979-80, and 20 868 in 1980-81.

Wednesday, 25 July

Telegram services

Michael Brotherton (Louth) asked what steps could be taken to ensure that there would be international telegram services other than that of the Post Office when the licences come up for renewal.

Mr Marshall said that this was a matter between the Post Office and the telegram companies concerned. However, the government was looking into the whole question of the Post Office's telecommunications monopoly with the aim of ensuring that the customer obtained the best possible service.

Industrial fasteners

Bruce George (Walsall South) asked what were the results of the representations made to the EEC on the problems of the British industrial fastener industry.

Mr Mitchell said following discussions between the Department of Industry and the EEC commission, the commission was inquiring into the apparent imbalance between the price at which steel is supplied to fastener manufacturers in other member states and the prices ruling in the UK. It was hoped that the matter would be brought to a conclusion during the autumn.

Car purchase by public and local authorities

John Butcher (Coventry South West) asked if, in the interests of the domestic industry, guidance would be issued to all local authorities and publicly-owned utilities similar to that issued in the case of the computers, that they should purchase cars assembled in the United Kingdom.

Mr Mitchell said no. The government had no powers of compulsion in such matters and the kind of guidance suggested would conflict with the UK's international obligations. He did, however, take appropriate opportunities to stress the importance of buying British made goods, including cars, where it made commercial sense.

Maritime radio services

John Wilkinson (Hillingdon, Ruislip-Northwood) asked about the maritime radio services.

Mr Butler replied that the government recognised the importance of maritime radio communications for ships at sea. The shipping industry, which was a major contributor to the UK economy, was, in common with the fishing industry, entirely dependent on radio communications as a means of conducting business, for social contact and, most importantly, for overall safety communications. Once a ship had sailed, there was no other means of communication available to shipowners, ship masters, crew members or the general public and their families.

The government accordingly attached great importance to the part played by the Post Office's maritime radio services and the obligatory distress watch provided by the Post Office and the coastguard, as well as the safety survey carried out on ships' equipment.

More generally the government had been playing an active role in the formation of the International Maritime Satellite Organisation (Inmarsat), and the UK delegation to the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) to be held later this year would be stressing the importance of providing sufficient frequencies for the terrestrial and satellite services to meet the expanding maritime radio frequency requirements.

Gatwick and Heathrow movements

Peter Hordern (Horsham and Crawley) asked what were the present limits on aircraft noise at Gatwick, what penalties had been imposed during the past year on aircraft exceeding these limits and what plans there were to reduce these limits.

Mr Tebbit replied that the limits at the fixed noise monitoring points at Gatwick were 110 PNdB by day and 102 PNdB by night and there were, at present, no plans to reduce them. Less than half of 1 per cent of all aircraft departures exceeded these limits and it had not been necessary to impose penalties for infringements.

Mr Hordern also asked what was the present annual number of night flights permitted at Gatwick, what was the number at Heathrow, and what plans there were to reduce the number of night flights at Gatwick.

Mr Tebbit said the maximum annual number of night flights permitted was 8550 at Gatwick and 6900 at Heathrow. Within these totals, noisier night flights are being phased out completely by 1987 and the number of quieter movements was being allowed to increase. This policy would be reviewed in the light of the results of the current research into the relationship between aircraft noise and sleep disturbance and other relevant criteria.

Door dumping

Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull Central) asked for a statement on the representations received from the industry on the dumping of foreign-made doors from Taiwan, Indonesia and Portugal in the United Kingdom; and if the representation made by the British Woodworking Federation on behalf of door manufacturers to the appropriate secretariat in Brussels would be supported.

Mr Parkinson said he had received no specific representations concerning the dumping of wooden doors from Indonesia or Portugal. However, the Department of Trade, the Department of the Environment and the British Woodworking Federation were in contact over imports of carved doors from Taiwan and he was certainly prepared to support any well-founded complaint of dumping which the federation wished to pursue in Brussels. In the case of louvred wooden doors from Taiwan a UK anti-dumping duty had been in operation since March 1977.

Car imports

John Butcher (Coventry South West) asked how many cars had been imported from Spain in each month over the past two years, by which manufacturers, and if the existing trade arrangements for cars were truly reciprocal.

Mr Parkinson gave the figures in the table.

In recognition of the disparate industrial strength of the two parties, the concession exchanged between Spain and the community under the 1970 trade agreement did not provide for reciprocity in individual products sectors for either duties or import quotas. The Secretary of State for Trade therefore looked forward to the rapid dismantling of Spanish import barriers which would be an important community objective in the accession negotiations with Spain which started this autumn.

NEW REGISTRATIONS OF NEW CARS IMPORTED FROM SPAIN BY EACH MANUFACTURER: 1977-78

Month	Chrysler Europe	Ford	Total Spain
1977			
January	221	—	221
February	295	—	295
March	282	—	282
April	264	—	264
May	289	—	289
June	178	—	178
July	118	—	118
August	309	—	309
September	142	—	142
October	218	—	218
November	170	—	170
December	166	109	275
Total	2 652	109	2 761
1978			
January	313	493	806
February	212	537	749
March	432	782	1 214
April	190	974	1 164
May	311	591	902
June	203	1 225	1 428
July	69	1 098	1 167
August	472	6 472	6 944
September	217	4 419	4 636
October	387	2 802	3 189
November	479	813	1 292
December	281	1 202	1 483
Total	3 566	21 408	24 974

Source: Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Ltd.

Corby status

William Homewood (Kettering) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he would consider the granting of special area status to the Corby area of Northamptonshire.

Mr Mitchell said he was considering whether Corby should be made an assisted area.

Thursday, 26 July

EEC subsidy ceilings

Alan Williams (Swansea West) asked what were the current ceilings within the EEC on proportions of costs of projects which could be met by government subsidy in each category of assisted area and how the UK limits on regional development grants and section 7 assistance compare with the EEC ceilings.

Mr Mitchell said the current ceilings on the total regional aid given to a project were specified in the communication of the commission on regional aid systems (*Official Journal* C31/9, 3 February).

Regional development grants in Great Britain were currently:

Special development areas
Twenty-two per cent on capital expenditure incurred for the provision of new plant and machinery, buildings and works

Development areas
Twenty per cent on capital expenditure incurred for the provision of new plant and machinery, building and works, if the expenditure was defrayed before 18 July and/or assets are provided before 1 August 1980; or 15 per cent on expenditure defrayed on assets provided on or after 1 August 1980

Intermediate areas
Twenty per cent on capital expenditure incurred for the provision of new buildings and works, if the expenditure was defrayed before 18 July 1979 and/or assets are provided before 1 August 1980; but no grant will be paid on expenditure incurred in providing such a building or works after 31 July 1980.

These rates of regional development grant were themselves below the appropriate community ceiling.

No limits were set by the Industry Act 1972 on the amount of section 7 assistance that would be given to a project in Great Britain. The assistance given was the minimum necessary to secure the project. The maximum assistance was calculated by reference to the community ceilings which were not exceeded. The total regional aid given to a project did not exceed the appropriate community ceiling. Regional aids in Northern Ireland were governed by separate legislation and were the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Cash limits for section 7 aid

Jock Bruce-Gardyne (Knutsford) asked if cash limits had been set for expenditure under section 7 of the Industrial Act 1972.

Mr Mitchell said that cash limits were not appropriate to regional selective assistance under section 7 of the Industry Act because the annual rate of payment was dependent upon the number of applications received which met the criteria for assistance, and on the progress of projects being supported. However, as announced in the house on 17 July, the criteria for such assistance was being tightened, thus limiting the overall government commitment in the longer term.

Shipbuilding redundancy payments

Dr David Clark (South Shields) asked for an estimate of the cost of the shipbuilding redundancy payments scheme 1978 for the years July 1979 to July 1980 and July 1980 to July 1981.

Mr Marshall replied that the total cost cannot be forecast since it depended on the number of eligible employees; on their age, length of service, previous pay, and on the their success in finding alternative employment. The present pattern of payments suggested a cost of not less than £2,500 for each eligible employee.

Dr Clark also asked what had been the average invidual payment made under the Shipbuilding Redundancy Payments Order 1977.

Mr Marshall said that at 26 July 1979, the average individual payment under the Shipbuilding (Redundancy Payments Scheme) (Great Britain) Order 1978 was £1,750. This total was made up of an average lump sum of £1,428 and average periodical payments to date of £322.

Fairs and Promotions Branch

John Butcher (Coventry South-West) asked what is the current and projected level of staffing in the Fairs and Promotions Branch of the British Overseas Trade Board and what was its projected expenditure on outward missions for the current year.

Mr Parkinson said the branch currently had 197 staff, 10 less than its authorised complement. The future level of staffing would depend on the outcome of the government's review of public expenditure and Civil Service manpower and on the demand from exporters for the services which the branch was required to administer. On outward missions projected expenditure was £1.3 million.

Insurance advertising regulations

Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked whether it was proposed to make regulations regarding insurance advertisements under section 62 of the Insurance Companies Act 1974.

Mr Eyre was not convinced that it was at present, necessary in the interests of policy holders and potential policy holders that these regulations should be made. Most insurance advertising gave no ground for criticism and section 63 of the act made it an offence to induce people to enter into conracts of insurance by advertising containing misleading, false or deceptive statements, promised or forecasts. He was informing representative bodies in the industry that so long as the industry maintained high standards of advertising he proposed not to make regulations.

Map workshop coverage

Jim Marshall (Leicester South) asked for an estimate of the number of executives and trade unionists already covered by the national awareness programmes under the microprocessor application project and what was the government's target.

Mr Mitchell said that in December 1978, the Department of Industry set a target or reaching 50 000 executives and trade unionists by the end of 1981. By the end of June 1979, estimates indicated that some 36 843 executives and trade unionists had already been reached. Of these, some 11 000 were trade unionists and some 25 000 executives. He was confident that the 50 000 target would be reached before the end of this year, some two years ahead of schedule.

British Shipbuilders' financial determination

Michael Colvin (Bristol North West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whete he had made a determination of the financial duties of British Shipbuilders as outlined in the statement to the house on 23 July.

Mr Butler said that the Secretary of State for Industry, in accordance with section 10 of the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act 1977, had made with the approval of the Treasury and after consulting British Shipbuilders, a determination of the financial duties for British Shipbuilders which had set for the current financial year a trading loss limit of £100 million after intervention fund assistance, and £90 million before crediting intervention fund assistance for 1980-81 as indicated in the statement on shipbuilding on 23 July.

East European trade council

Michael Brotherton (Louth) asked about the activities of the east European trade council; who were its members; what fees were paid to them; what was the overall cost of the council to public funds; and what plans he had for its future.

Mr Parkinson said that the activities of the east European trade council were concerned with the promotion of British exports to easter Europe. This was achieved by creating interest in, and disseminating information and advice about, east European markets. It acts as area advisory group to the British Overseas Trade Board. A list of the members of the council, who were voluntary members and as such upaid, is below.

The council is a grant-in-aid body and payments made to it by the Department of Trade for the last two financial years beginning 1 April were: 1977-78, £46,700; 1978-79, £52,623. A provision of £58,000 has been made for the current financial year 1979-80.

The grant-in-aid to the council was being reviewed as part of the overall review of government expenditure.

Chairman. Lord Shackleton.

Deputy chairmen. Sir John Buckley; J. N. Cooper; L. Dobson; L. Friedman.

Members. P. G. Bennett, G. T. Checketts, Miss A. M. Conning, J. M. Edwards, R. H. C. Foxwell, S. Huismans, J. J. Lambie, W. F. Nicholas, R. J. R. Owen, G. S. Planner, R. S. Scrivener, R. H. Thorpe, B. N. Preston, D. Winter.
Miss M. Z. Terry of the Department of Trade was a member of the council and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Bank of England and Exports Credits Guarantee Department were represented by observers.

Friday, 27 July

Map workshops

John Grant (Islington Central) asked how many senior managers had attended a one-day workshop on the application of microelectronics under the microprocessor applications programme now completed and which of the top 1000 companies took part.

Mr Mitchell replied that the number of senior managers who attended one-day workshops on the application of microelectronics under the microprocessor applications programme up to 20 July was 1940. The number of top 1000 companies based in London, the south east and east of England who took part was 177. An analysis of returns for whole of UK could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

Community aid publicity

Hugh Dykes (Harrow East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, if he would suggest at the next council of ministers meeting that all recipients of community grants and loans should be required to display the fact that a given project is community assisted on the site or location of the project.

Notice boards were customarily erected on most of the large infrastructure projects aided by the European regional development fund to publicise this fact. The community also provided other financial assistance to a wide range of industry, agriculture and public authorities, and many recipients publicise that they had received such financial help but he did not consider it appropriate to compel all recipients to do so. The community institutions themselves also generally publicised the aid which they had provided, which, in the case of ERDF and social fund assistance, would be paid from monies contributed by member states.

Department of Industry employees

Peter Hordern (Horsham and Crawley) asked for the numbers employed and the cost of salaries in the Department of Industry and in all government agencies which his department sponsored in February 1974, and at the lastest available date.

Mr Mitchell said the Department of Industry was created on 5 March 1974. On 1 April 1974 the number of staff in post, adjusted to take account of subsequent inter-departmental transfers, was 9792 and on 1 April 1979 it was 9515. The provision for salaries in the 1974–75 estimates was £26,771,000 based on prices in force in April 1973 and in the 1979-80 estimates £59,112,000 based on prices in force in April 1979. The last figure took account of the adjustment to the Civil Service pay component in the revised cash limits published on 26 June 1979. Comparable information about the staff numbers and costs of government agencies could not be obtained without incurring disproportionate cost.

Airport passenger capacities

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked what was the total number of terminal passengers catered for during the latest covenient 12-month period at the following airports London (Heathrow), Atlanta, Chicago O'Hare, Los Angeles, New York JFK, San Francisco, Tokyo (Haneda), New York (La Guardia), Osaka, Miami, Denver, Dallas, Forth Worth, Boston, Washington National and London (Gatwick).

Mr Tebbit gave the information for 1978 which was published by the British Airports Authority:

Airport	Terminal passengers
London: Heathrow	26 488
London: Gatwick	7 761
Atlanta	36 536
Boston	13 543
Chicago O'Hare	49 151[1]
Dallas/Fort Worth	19 800
Denver	18 934
Los Angeles	32 901
Miami	16 501
New York: La Guardia	17 097
New York: J F Kennedy	24 846
Tokyo Haneda	20 795
Osaka	15 300
San Francisco	21 480
Washington National	13 462

[1] Total passengers, including transit passengers.

Heathrow-Gatwick transfers

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked how many foreign carriers had been asked to move their operation from Heathrow to Gatwick since the latter airport opened; who had been so requested; in which cases the relevant foreign governments had objected to the move; and how many had moved from Heathrow to Gatwick.

Mr Tebbit said that information for the period before 5 April 1977, when the previous government announced its policy for the transfer of air traffic from Heathrow to Gatwick, could not be provided other than at disproportionate cost. Since April 1977 all foreign airlines had been required to transfer their charter services from Heathrow and all had complied. Inter-government discussions, also involving the airlines, about the transfer of scheduled air services to Gatwick had been undertaken with the United States, Canada, Spain, Portugal and the Scandinavian countries. No scheduled services had yet been transferred, but as a result of these discussions and other initiatives a number of new services had been introduced at Gatwick.

Non-EEC imports

Ronald Leighton (Newham North East) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what was the approximate level of tariff on imports of textiles and clothing, iron and steel products, and motor cars, when imported from non-EEC countries; what was the level before the United Kingdom joined the EEC; what is his estimate of the elasticity of demand in each case; and by how much he estimates that imports from the EEC would be reduced if the original tariff was to be re-imposed on such imports.

Mr Parkinson said that a number of tariffs applied to products in the iron and steel, textile and clothing sectors. The tariffs listed below for 1 January 1972 and 1 July 1979 were representative for the main products in these groups.

	1 Jan 72 per cent	1 Jul 79 per cent
Textiles (woven fabrics)	17.5	13 to 18
Clothing	20	17
Iron and steel	8	7
Motor cars	11	11

Even if the relevant demand and supply elasticities could be estimated with any confidence they would have uncertain application in current conditions of spare capacity in some of these sectors and also in view of measures aimed at stabilisation, particularly the community's arrangements for iron and steel products.

ECGD in Scotland

Harry Ewing (Stirling, Falkirk and Grangemouth) asked how many firms in Scotland were taking advantage of the export credit guarantee arrangements at the end of June.

Mr Parkinson said that at the end of June 1979, 686 firms in Scotland held comprehensive guarantees from ECGD. Information was not readily available about the use of ECGD's other facilities by firms in Scotland.

Trade in the EEC

Ronald Leighton (Newham North East) asked for an explanation of the poor performance of United Kingdom exporters in the EEC in contrast to the performance in the other areas where the United Kingdom did extremely well.

Mr Parkinson said that he would not agree that Britain's export performance in the EEC had been poor. During the 1970s UK exports to the EEC had grown rather faster than to the rest of the developed countries. Further, over this period the UK had broadly maintained its share of the value of OECD exports to the community. Exports had, however, grown more rapidly to some other areas of the world, for example to the Opec countries as a group, where imports had been markedly increased as a result of the oil price rises.

Megs in Scotland

Harry Ewing (Stirling, Falkirk and Grangemouth) asked how many companies in Scotland had taken advantage of the market entry guarantee scheme under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 in each year since the act was implemented; and what was the total number of employees in the companies concerned.

Mr Parkinson said the market entry guarantee scheme was being operated on a two-year experimental basis by the Department of Trade on behalf of the British Overseas Trade Board. It did not form part of the assistance available under the Industry Act 1972. At this date one company in Scotland had taken advantage of the scheme. The number of employees was below 100.

Hotel development expenditure

Ronald Leighton (Newham North East) asked what was the amount spent by central government under the hotel development incentive scheme; what proportion of this went to the major hotel chains; and what was the return to the public at large from this expenditure.

Mr Tebbit said £44 million had been spent on grants under the hotel development incentive scheme by central government in England. Administration of the scheme in Scotland and in Wales was the responsibility of the respective secretaries of state. Information was not readily available on the proportion which went to major hotel chains; but it seemed likely that, as the amount of grant was related to the number of bedrooms provided, and three-quarters of grants were for £10,000 or less the scheme benefited mainly smaller hotels. It was not possible to say to what extent this brought about provision which would not otherwise have been made but had the 50 000 additional bedrooms which resulted from the scheme in England not been available, it is doubtful if the rapid growth in overseas visitors of the past few years could have been accommodated, to the detriment of the UK's foreign exchange earnings.

Trade department employees

Peter Hordern (Horsham and Crawley) asked for the numbers employed, and the cost of salaries, in the Department of Trade and in all government agencies of which the department sponsored in February 1974 and at the latest available date.

John Nott replied that the department was created on 5 March 1974 and in May of this year it was amalgamated with the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection. On 1 April 1974 the number of staff in post in the two departments was 7300 and on 1 April it was 7626. The provision for salaries in the 1974-75 estimates was £19,656,000 based on the prices in force in April 1973 and in the 1979-80 estimates was £48.071,000 based on prices in force in April 1979. The last figure took account of the adjustment to the Civil Service pay component in the revised cash limits published on 26 June. Comparable information about the staff numbers and costs of government agencies could not be obtained without incurring disproportionate cost.

Non-noise certificated aircraft

Michael Shersby (Hillingdon, Uxbridge) asked for confirmation that British-registered aircraft which did not hold a noise certificate would not be operated in the United Kingdom after 1986; and if he would ensure that British government policy was designed to secure similar compliance by foreign airlines using British airports.

Mr Tebbit said the use of all non-noise-certificated subsonic jets on the UK register would be prohibited from 1 January 1986. In the absence of international agreement, the application of domestic requirements to foreign-registered aircraft would disrupt the orderly development of civic aviation. However the great majority of countries with a major interest in civil aviation were introducing similar requirements from comparable dates. The draft EEC directive on aircraft noise (see *Trade and Industry* 29 June) would reinforce this position in EEC countries.

Plessey Telecommunications

David Alton (Liverpool, Edge Hill) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how much new equipment had been installed at Plessey, Edge Lane, Liverpool, over the past five years financed partially or in full via government grants and if he was satisfied that the plant was currently in use.

Mr Mitchell said no selective financial assistance has been given to Plessey Telecommunications Ltd at Liverpool during the past five years. Payments of regional development grant during that period totalled £696,210 (£434,248 for plant and machinery and £291,962 for buildings and works). The grants were made subject to conditions which required the company to notify the department if the grant-aided assets were not brought into use or ceased to be used on the premises and which imposed upon the grantee an obligation to repay the grant in whole or in part if either of these events occur. The department had no grounds for believing that grants were improperly paid and no information to suggest that the company had failed to comply with the terms of the conditions, but the matter would be investigated.

Retail prices increases

Bob Cryer (Keighley) asked how much the retail price index has increased each month since 3 May.

Mrs Oppenheim said the retail price index rose by 0.8 per cent between April and May and by 1.7 per cent between May and June. Corresponding figures for the first four months of the year were 1.5 per cent, 0.8 per cent, 0.8 per cent and 1.7 per cent.

European community news

Exhaustion of community revenue imminent – Tugendhat

Christopher Tugendhat, commission member responsible for the community budget, said the community had almost reached the limits allowed for under the present 'own resources' system. Presenting the preliminary draft budget for 1980 to the newly elected European parliament on 20 July he said that only 14.9 per cent remained of the total resources potentially available this year and the prospect of exhaustion of community revenue was imminent.

Mr Tugendhat explained that the community's 'own resources', as at present defined, consisted of customs duties, levies on trade in foodstuffs and up to the equivalent of one per cent VAT. This year the rate of VAT was 0.74 per cent. Next year it was expected to be 0.88 per cent, due to the decisions on prices made by the agriculture ministers last month. It would have been 0.75 per cent if the commission's original price proposals had been accepted.

This last change, he said, brought with it the clear prospect of inadequate own resources in 1981 – only 18 months away – even if the council next year were to be more restrained in its decisions.

On the question of new finance Mr Tugendhat told MPs that the commission did not believe that a limit on resources decided nearly 10 years ago, in very different circumstances from now, should be allowed to hold back the development of the community, let alone that it should lead to a dismantling of any of the progress so far achieved. This might be the result if desperate measures were taken to keep within the present ceiling, he said.

He added that the commission had announced its intention to make a formal proposal to increase the community's resources, and to do this by the end of this year. But the commission believed that the effect of own resources (customs duties and agricultural levies apart) should not bear more heavily on countries with relatively low economic capacity. There should be a study of the possibility of some countries with relatively high economic performance bearing a greater burden than others, he said.

Agriculture

In budget terms, Mr Tugendhat said, the effect of the commission's farm price proposals would have been to hold down the growth in agricultural expenditure to only 3 per cent, compared with some 20 per cent in recent years. This was because surpluses were the major source of cost to the taxpayer, the more so as agriculture was such a large part of the total budget. This year the milk sector alone accounted for 27 per cent of the whole budget and so measures to tackle surpluses of this and a few other types of produce had a direct and major impact on the budget. They had a particular relevance when the community faced exhaustion of own resources. On the basis of its proposals (and similar restraint in future years) the commission estimated that existing own resources would last until 1982.

He specified that on this basis, the commission's preliminary draft budget for 1980 involved commitment credits of 16 625 million Eua and payment credits of 14 997 million Eua with a significant increase in non-obligatory expenditure offset by only a modest rise in obligatory expenditure to produce an overall rate of increase in commitments of 13.1 per cent, compared with 1979.

'Since we made our proposals', he said, 'the council has decided on this year's agricultural prices. The result would be an increase in the budgetary cost in 1980 of 1300 million Eua or some 10 per cent of the total budget, and a rise in the rate of VAT from 0.75 per cent to 0.88 per cent.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

Home news

Measuring systems to conform to EEC directive 240

Parliament

European regional development fund grants 250
Steel industry aids 250
Tent-making industry 250
UK-EEC investment 250
Trade in the EEC 252
EEC subsidy ceilings 253

Statistics

Economic indicators of industrial countries 269

UK stresses budget urgency

The urgency of the work on the community budget deriving from the decisions of the European council in June was stressed by the UK at the foreign affairs council in Brussels on 23 and 24 July.

In reply to a question in the House of Common about the meeting, Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, who represented the UK, said the commission confirmed that its reference paper on the budget would be available in time for discussion at the finance council in September.

Agreement was reached, Sir Ian added, on the financial provisions governing an energy research and development programme over the next four years. (See solar energy research item on page 255.)

The council also agreed, subject to a UK waiting reserve, a framework regulation reaffirming the community's political commitment to set up a register of oil purchases, Sir Ian said.

On the plight of south-east Asian refugees, Sir Ian said that the council confirmed the commitment made by the community at the Geneva conference to continue to provide half of the food aid needs requested by the United Nations high commissioner for refugees, and to give him substantially increased financial support.

On the Gatt multilateral trade negotiations, Sir Ian reported that the council took note of the commission's intention to continue its efforts to find a solution to the remaining issue of safeguards, and that trade minister Cecil Parkinson, who accompanied Sir Ian, took the opportunity to express the government's concern about the effect of United States' differential oil and feedstock prices on the prices of its synthetic textile exports. He also asked the commission to press ahead urgently with its investigation into this matter.

Finally, a multi-annual data processing programme costing about £16 million over four years was agreed, Sir Ian said. The programme would cover software, applications and standardisation, and various studies.

Sheepmeat proposals must satisfy UK and New Zealand – Walker

Community measures on sheepmeat must provide satisfactorily for the interests of British producers and consumers and of New Zealand, said Peter Walker, agriculture minister, in reply to a parliamentary question on 25 July about the outcome of agriculture council meeting in Brussels. There was a danger, he said, of community measures adding to the agricultural budget.

Mr Walker said that he had made it clear that the situation which would follow from a European court judgement against French import controls called at most for limited measures; any aids to producers should be confined to France and the Irish Republic, and should be for a limited period only, and the cost should be met by the governments concerned. He was, he said, prepared to agree to the negotiation of voluntary understandings with third countries, including New Zealand, providing any agreement had the full support of New Zealand about the level of their exports to the community. He was not prepared to agree to the deconsolidation of the Gatt-bound tariff on imports of frozen sheepmeat.

On wine the council decided, he said, largely as a result of UK opposition, not to adopt a compromise proposal for aid towards the

EEC's London library closed in August

The library and data room facilities of the London office of the European commission will be closed from 6 to 31 August.

cost of compulsory distillation of the by-products of wine making, which could have cost some £16 million.

Mr Walker said that some delegations tried to re-open the recent decision on the reduction in the New Zealand butter levy by an amount equivalent to the special UK consumer subsidy. Mr Walker said that he had defended the reduction and pointed out that the levy operating since the beginning of the year resulted in a fall in the sales of New Zealand butter. The commission, in his view correctly, defended the latest reduction in the levy.

The French delegation had proposed changes in the school milk subsidy which would have given additional aid to skimmed milk at the expense of the whole milk. The UK opposed this proposal, said Mr Walker, on the grounds that it would add to the butter surplus and not be in the interests of the children. The French proposal was not accepted.

New Zealand butter arrangement extended

The EEC commission recommended on 26 July that Britain should be allowed to continue importing New Zealand butter after the existing arrangements expire in 1980, but the amount should be reduced.

The government will press for continued access to New Zealand produce, including sheepmeat and butter, after 1980.

Minister gives common fisheries policy assurance to fishermen

Fisheries minister Alick Buchanan-Smith said on 20 July he was very keen to learn at first hand the views of fishermen in relation to the EEC and his visit to the north east was the first of a series to different parts of the coast.

'Close contact with the industry is essential', he said, 'if we are to succeed in a satisfactory revision of the common fisheries policy.' But he added that he was surprised by certain reports he had seen that agreement on the common fisheries policy (cfp) was in sight.

While the UK would welcome a satisfactory settlement, he said there were still many issues of crucial importance outstanding. The UK was determined to obtain a satisfactory exclusive zone which would be a further considerable preferential area and a share of quotas which properly reflected UK contribution of fishing waters. In addition, the UK needed conservation measures that were fully effective.

Mr Buchanan-Smith said that he was under no illusion about the difficulties ahead and that the country still had an enormous task to persuade EEC colleagues of the justice of the UK. 'While I welcome any indication from the commission and our fellow members in the fisheries council that they understand our interests,' he said, 'I assure our fishermen that we will be standing firm on this issue.'

Solar energy research given boost

Solar energy research will take up almost half of the £70 million which the commission is proposing to spend over the next four years on its second community research and development programme on renewable sources of energy.

Solar energy application to dwellings, solar power generation by thermomechanical and photovoltaic means, and the production of energy from biomass (organic-based material used for energy production) are likely to be included in the programme. Ways of utilising wind energy may also be explored.

The UK has already begun a £6 million four-year programme of its own for the research, development and demonstration of solar energy. Under this programme, projects are being carried out on the use of solar energy for water and space heating, collection of insolation data and the potential of biological systems (biomass) for direct or indirect production of liquid or gaseous fuels.

More solar energy is received in the UK each year than is imagined but the intermittent and dispersed nature of this radiant energy makes its recovery difficult and potentially expensive. The area of greatest potential return is in water and space heating. Current work is aimed at improving cost effectiveness of solar water-heating panels and associated systems, increased understanding of the long-term thermal and corrosion behaviour of these systems, and study of thermal behaviour of various options for solar heated dwellings.

The methods by which living plants convert and store solar energy are also being studied in the hope of attaining higher yielding crops, benefiting both agriculture and energy biomass production. Such 'energy crops' if grown economically on marginal or coastal areas, either as 'conventional plants' or aquatic micro-organisms could become a potential feedstock for conversion into liquid or gaseous fuels.

Further information on these programmes can be obtained from the energy technology division of the Department of Energy, the Energy Technology Support Unit at Harwell or the Solar Trade Association, London, tel. 01-636 4747.

Solar panels on trial in London.

Scotch whisky exports run into legal problem

An appeal to the European court of justice against the commission's ruling on the dual price structure applied to scotch whisky has been made by the Distillers company. The commission has said that the dual-price structure, designed to protect EEC distributors from undercutting by wholesaler-exporters, is illegal under the community's competition rules.

This problem has existed for some time. Some UK distillers prohibited wholesalers in the past from exporting brands for which there was already a sole distributor. The commission declared this practice illegal in 1975. Industry responded with the dual price structure which allowed wholesalers discount prices on condition they do not export the product. Exports are as a result of the commission's decision threatened by the possibility of sole distributors cutting promotion expenditure and losing interest in the brand if they continue to be undercut by 'parasitic' wholesalers.

Agriculture minister Peter Walker recently met representatives of the Scotch Whisky Association to discuss the problem.

Energy savings depend on responsibility and initiative – commission

Technical potential for saving energy has been placed in its economic, institutional, cultural and social context in a report prepared by the energy directorate of the European commission. Its conclusion is that the challenge of an energy-efficient society is one that society can meet without imperilling its values, its traditions or the well-being and liberties of its citizens. Success depends upon the individual initiative and responsibility shown by households and enterprises, the report says.

It is not a question of renouncing economic growth, the report says, but of redirecting its content and its quality. Low rates of economic growth would retard the changes and renewals necessary to move towards a more energy-efficient society, but sustainable, rapid economic growth must be based on a more complete policy for energy use than has yet been attempted.

The report presents a picture of what such a policy might look like. It remains, the report says, to build the political consensus needed for the pursuit of a consistent, long-term effort.

Discussions

The report will be discussed within the commission, with member states, and with the European parliament. But the commission also attaches the greatest importance to encouraging general participation in a wide-ranging public debate about the adaptations required by society in the next 20 years.

Anti-dumping duty on Spanish steel suspended

From 18 July, the UK anti-dumping duty imposed on certain bars and rods of alloy steel covered by the treaty of Paris (ECSC products) falling within CCT headings 73.15 BV(b)2 and (d)(1), (aa) and originating in Spain was suspended. This action has been taken in the light of undertakings received by the government from the Spanish steel industry. Any anti-dumping duty paid on these products imported on or after 11 April 1979 will be repaid on application to Customs and Excise in the manner prescribed by the commissioners of Customs and Excise.

Any general inquiries should be addressed to Department of Trade, General Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 3950.

Inquiries concerning repayment of duties should be referred to local officers of Customs and Excise.

EEC indicative ceiling imports from Efta

The Department of Trade has been informed that community imports of the following goods have reached 75 per cent or more of the indicative ceiling level for 1979 (see *Trade and Industry*, 2 March):

Order no.	Country of origin	CCT heading/Description
IP8	Portugal	**61.01** Men's and boys' outer garments

In addition, community imports of the following goods have exceeded the indicative ceiling level for 1979:

Order no.	Country of origin	CCT heading/Description
IA6	Austria	**ex 48.15** Other paper and paperboard, cut to size or shape

Suspension of the CCT: other member states' requests

Details of requests for new suspensions of the common customs tariff (CCT) to operate from 1 January 1980 were announced in the 20 July issue of *Trade and Industry*. The EEC commission has now informed the Department of Trade of the following further request for which total suspension is sought:

CCT heading/Description
ex 85.21 DII Electronic programmable memory with a storage capacity of 32-64 Kbits Eproms (UV erasable)

The department will wish to take account of UK interests in making its views known to the EEC before decisions are taken whether to grant this proposed suspension.

UK producers of the goods in question or of like or competing products are entitled to object where they consider that they are able to supply the whole or the greater part of the needs of the community and that their interests would be adversely affected by suspension or reduction of the CCT. Producers wishing to object to the granting of this suspension should provide as much as possible of the following information:

1 Estimated community (nine countries including the UK) demand in 1980;
2 Estimated UK demand in 1980;
3 UK production expected to be available in 1980 for:
  3.1 the UK market
  3.2 the rest of the community
  3.3 exports to other countries.

This information should be sent in writing to the Department of Trade, General Division, Room 436, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, to arrive not later than 17 August 1979.

Inquiries: 01-215 3576.

New UK permanent representative appointed

Michael Butler has been appointed United Kingdom permanent representative to the European communities, with the personal rank of ambassador, in succession to Sir Donald Maitland. Mr Butler moves to Brussels from being deputy under-secretary of state (economic) at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

New EEC documents

This list of EEC documents was deposited in the House of Commons in the seven days to 19 July (commission reference numbers, where appropriate, are given in parentheses) These documents are available for consultation at the European Communities Commission Information Office, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.

EEC draft instruments

7633/79. Preliminary draft general budget of the communities for the financial year 1980 (letter (and annex) C. Tugendhat).
7897/79. Amendment to the proposal for a council regulation defining the conditions under which a person may be permitted to make a customs declaration (COM (79) 342).
7845/79. Proposal for a council decision opening supplementary quotas for imports into Italy of certain products originating in Romania (COM (79) 343).

Explanatory statements on draft instruments

5407/79. Financial support in the field of energy-saving.
7633/79. 1980 draft general budget.
7053/79. Regulations to cosmetic products.
7845/79. Imports into Italy from Romania.
7112/79. Consultation procedure on power stations.
6247/79. Food aid for Zambia.
7493/79. Imports into Italy from China.
6394/79. Promotion of railway integration.
7308/79. Conditions of employment in the EEC.
7306/79. Co-operation in the field of social security.

EEC draft instruments

7966/79. Proposals for a council regulation amending regulation (ECSC, EEC, Euratom) 300/76 determining the categories of officials entitled to allowances for shiftwork, and the rates and conditions thereof (COM (79) 344).
7936/79. Proposal for a council directive amending directive 71/118/EEC on health problems affecting trade in fresh poultry-meat (COM(79)299).

Consultative documents

7516/79. Quotas for imports into Italy and the United Kingdom of certain products originating in Romania (COM (79) 314).
7854/79. Harmonisation of excises on alcoholic beverages: compromise solution submitted by the commission (COM (79) 261).
7882/79. Draft action programme of the European communities with regard to consumers (COM (79) 336).
7944/79. Commission report to the council on the implementation of council regulation (EEC) 794/76 of 6 April 1976 laying down further measures for reorganising community fruit production (COM (79) 350).
7150/79. Report from the commission to the council on the utilisation of sums available for granting building loans to officials of the European communities over the period 1 January 1978 to 31 December 1978 (COM (79) 254).
7979/79. Proposal for a transfer of appropriations between chapters within the commission's budget estimates for the financial year 1979 (food aid) (COM(79)358).
7983/79. Proposal for a transfer of appropriations between chapters within the commission's budget estimates for the financial year 1979 (exchanges of young workers) (COM (79) 362).

Increase in 1979 magnesium quota

In accordance with EEC regulation 1385/78, published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities'* L167, 5 July, the unwrough magnesium duty-free quotas for 1979 have been increased with effect from 12 July.

The following amounts are available:

Tariff heading/Item	Amount
Ex 77.01A Extra-pure magnesium intended for the nuclear industry	300 tonnes added to the EEC reserve
Unwrought magnesium not in alloy	64 tonnes allocated to the UK. 40 tonnes added to the EEC reserve
Unwrought magnesium in alloy	2 500 tonnes added to the EEC reserve

Inquiries as to how much of a particular tariff quota has been used should be made to the Tariff Quota Registration Unit, HM Customs and Excise, Kings Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-616 1515, ext. 2570/2295.

UK businessmen going overseas

British businessmen intending to travel overseas are urged in their own interests to make the earliest possible contact, before going abroad, with the Export Services and Promotions Division of the Department of Trade (at the appropriate regional office for firms outside London, and Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU for firms in London and south-east England). The department, in co-operation with commercial officers at embassies, high commissions and consulates overseas, is in a position to provide advice when it is required, and to help, where appropriate, in making trade contacts related to the purpose of the visit. Even where a businessman does not require specific assistance it is valuable for him to meet the commercial officers to get up-to-date information about the market. The Department of Trade would therefore welcome receiving notification of any businessmen intending to travel overseas. To enable the overseas commercial officers to be of the greatest assistance to UK visitors the department needs to be able to brief the overseas officers as fully as possible.

New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Exports Services and promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations and directives which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Oils, fats and oilseeds. Regulation (EEC) 1479/79 amending articles 13 and 14 of regulation (EEC) 2041/75 on special detailed rules for the application of the system of import and export licences and advance fixing certificates for oils and fats (*Official Journal* L180, 17 July 1979).
Regulation (EEC) 1480/79 amending regulation (EEC) 651/71 on certain detailed rules for the application of export refunds on oil seeds by repealing article 4 (*Official Journal* L180, 17 July 1979).

Cereals and rice. Regulation (EEC) 1487/79 amending article 1(2) and the annex to regulation (EEC) 1501/77 determining the intervention centres for cereals (*Official Journal* L181, 18 July 1979).
Regulation (EEC) 1489/79 applying a special intervention measure for common wheat of bread-making quality at the start of the 1979-80 marketing year (*Official Journal* L181, 18 July 1979).

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 1502/79 establishing the standard average values for customs purposes of citrus fruits and apples and pears (*Official Journal* L182, 19 July 1979).

Seeds. Directive 79/641/EEC amending directives 66/401/EEC, 69/208/EEC and 70/458/EEC on the marketing of fodder plant seed, cereal seed, seed of oil and fibre plants and vegetable seed (*Official Journal* L183, 19 July 1979).
Regulation (EEC) 1516/79 amending regulation (EEC) 1119/79 laying down in respect of hybrid maize, special provisions for the implementation of the system of import licences for seeds. Article 4 is amended to read: 'The country of origin shall be indicated in section 14 of the application and of the import licence. The licence shall carry with it the obligation to import products originating in the country so indicated.' (*Official Journal* L184, 20 July 1979).

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 1513/79 amending, in respect of the approval of distilleries, article 6(1) of regulation (EEC) 1945/78 laying down, for the wine-growing year 1978-79, detailed rules for the distillation of the by-products of wine-making (*Official Journal* L184, 20 July 1979).

Sugar. Regulation (EEC) 1514/79 amending article 1(1) of regulation (EEC) 1764/76 laying down certain detailed rules for granting the differential amount and the subsidy provided for the refining of raw sugar produced in the French overseas departments (*Official Journal* L184, 20 July 1979).

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 1522/79 amending regulation (EEC) 2213/76 on the sale of skimmed-milk powder from public storage. In article 1 the expression '12 months' is hereby amended to read 'four months' (*Official Journal* L185, 21 July 1979).

Harmonisation of legislation

Agricultural and forestry tractors. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L179, 17 July 1979, contains the text of directive 79/622/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to the roll-over protection structures of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors (static testing).

Further information: Health and Safety Executive, Baynards House, 1 Chepstow Place, London W2, tel. 01-229 3456 ext. 75. Copies of the *Official Journal* may be obtained from HMSO, price £1.20.

Imports from non-member states

The texts of the following decisions which authorise the relevant member states to refuse entry to the specific goods have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*. The decisions relate to varying periods; full details are set out in the relevant decisions.

(*Official Journal* L180, 17 July 1979.)
Decision 79/625/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to natural honey, falling within heading 04.06 of the common customs tariff, originating in Mexico, Argentina and Guatemala and in free circulation in the other member states.
Decision 79/626/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to umbrellas and sunshades (including walking-stick umbrellas, umbrella tents, and garden and similar umbrellas), falling within heading 66.01 of the common customs tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.
Decision 79/627/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' woven breeches, shorts and trousers (including slacks); women's, girls' and infants' woven trousers and slacks, of wool, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, falling within heading ex 61.01 and subheading ex 61.02 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.01-62, 64, 66, 72, 74, 76; 61.02-66, 68, 72) (category 6), originating in Yugoslavia and in free circulation in the other member states.
Decision 79/628/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to women's, girls' and infants' woven overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes, jackets and blazers, other than garments of category 15A, of wool, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, falling within subheading ex 61.02 B of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.02-31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40) (category 15B), originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

(*Official Journal* L182, 19 July 1979.)
Decision 79/630/EEC authorising Germany not to apply community treatment to woven fabrics of cotton, other than gauze, terry fabrics, narrow woven fabrics, pile fabrics, chenille fabrics, tulle and other net fabrics, falling within heading 55.09 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 55.09-01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 38, 39, 41, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 61, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 76, 77, 78, 81, 82, 83, 84, 86, 87, 92, 93, 97) (category 2), originating in South Korea and in free circulation in the other member states.
Decision 79/631/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to shirts, T-shirts, lightweight fine knit roll, polo or turtle necked jumpers and pullovers, undervests and the like, knitted or crocheted, not elastic or rubberised, other than babies' garments, of cotton or synthetic textile fibres; T-shirts and lightweight fine knit roll, polo or turtle necked jumpers or pullovers of regenerated textile fibres, falling within heading ex 60.04 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 60.04-01, 05, 13, 18, 28, 29, 30, 41, 50, 58) (category 4), originating in India and in free circulation in the other member states.
Decision 79/632/EEC authorising France not to apply community treatment to handkerchiefs of woven fabrics, falling within heading ex 61.05 of the common customs tariff (Nimexe codes 61.05-20, 30) (categories 19 and 89), originating in Czechoslovakia and in free circulation in the other member states.

Putting the tin lid on pâté

These single-portion pâtés from Belgium have been capped by Metal Box's press on/twist off cap. Les Nutons of Belgium found the cap ideal for its pâtés. Metal Box's Poole factory has supplied 2 million caps whose lining compound can withstand the high processing temperatures required for meat products (121°C). In the centre of the tinplate cap is a 'button' which acts as an indicator if the cap has been tampered with and the vacuum, formed when the jar is sealed and processed, is broken.

LEBERPASTETE MIT GRÜNEM PFEFFER
IM OFEN GEBRATEN
Les Nutons
GREEN PEPPER PATE
BACKED IN OVEN
ARDENNER LEBERPASTETE
IM OFEN GEBRATEN
Les Nutons
BELGIAN LIVER PATE
BACKED IN OVEN
Les Nutons
PATE AU POIVRE VERT
Les Nutons
BRUSSELS PAT
PATE AUX CHAMPIGNONS
ROTI AU FOUR
Les Nutons

Eliminating technical barriers to trade within the EEC

Article 100: checklist of draft and adopted directives

The quarterly revision of the checklists showing directives proposed, approved, or adopted, introduced under article 100 of the treaty of Rome are printed below. The last lists were published in *Trade and Industry* of 11 May 1979. A background article on elimination of technical barriers to trade appeared in the August 1974 issue of the European Community Commentary.

A word on terminology. A preliminary draft is really nothing more than a working document for commission working groups, and may appear in any number of revisions. A commission proposal is the final version of the draft as submitted by the commission to the council of ministers. It too may undergo revision as a result of representations by member states at council meetings, and may even be remitted to the commission for further elaboration.

A directive does not have direct internal effect, but creates obligations on the governments of the member states to ensure that its requirements are strictly and fully implemented, where necessary by national legislation. Once adopted, council directives may be adapted to technical progress by directives issued either by the commission or if necessary, by the council on a proposal from the commission.

The texts of adopted directives are published in the 'L' (legislation series) of the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, and the text of commission proposals in the 'C' (information and notices) series, preliminary drafts and council revisions of commission proposals are not published. In the list below, the dates of issue of the *Official Journal* containing texts of adopted and proposed directives are given where they are known. The *Journal* has appeared in English only since 1 January 1973, but the English texts of adopted directives published before then (together with all other pre-accession community legislation) were issued in a series of special editions of the *Official Journal* in December 1972.

Asterisks indicate where changes in the status of documents have occurred during the past quarter. The *Official Journal* is obtainable from HM Stationery Office.

Industrial

Inquiries: Mr E. W. Allen, Department of Trade, Metrology, Quality Assurance and Standards Division, Branch 1, Room 2801, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU, tel. 01-211 6228.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Motor vehicles		
Type approval	70/156/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (*OJ* 23.2.70)
	COM(76)721 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 2.2.77)
	78/315/EEC of 21.12.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.78)
	78/547/EEC of 12.6.78	Directive (*OJ* 26.6.78)
Rear registration plates	70/222/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
Sound level and exhaust system	70/157/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (*OJ* 23.2.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 73/350/EEC of 7.11.73	Commission directive (*OJ* 22.11.73)
	77/212/EEC of 8.3.77	Directive amending 70/157/EEC (*OJ* 12.3.77)
Fuel tanks and rear protective devices*	70/221/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
	XI/249/75	Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress
	XI/260/75 Rev 2	Preliminary draft for further adaptation to technical progess
	Corrigendum to 70/221/EEC of 20.3.70	OJ 15.3.79 L65
	COM (79) 392 final/3	Commission directive adapting 70/221/EEC to technical progress
Audible warning devices	70/388/EEC of 27.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 10.8.70)
Air pollution by gases from positive ignition (spark ignition) engines	70/220/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/290/EEC of 28.4.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.6.74)
	77/102/EEC of 30.11.76	Commission directive adapting 70/220/EEC (*OJ* 3.2.77 L32)
	COM (78)858 FINAL	Further commission directive adapting 70/220/EEC to technical progress
Steering equipment	70/311/EEC of 8.6.70	Directive (*OJ* 18.5.70)
Doors	70/387/EEC of 27.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 10.8.70)
Direction indicator lamps	76/759/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Suppression of radio interference produced by spark ignition engines	72/245/EEC of 20.6.72	Directive (*OJ* 6.7.72)
Installation of lighting and light signalling devices*	76/756/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
	III/304/79	Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress
Windscreen-wiper and windscreen-washer systems	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
	78/318/EEC of 21.12.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.78) and corrigendum (*OJ* 19.7.78)
Field of vision	COM(75)619 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* C54 of 8.3.76)
	77/649/EEC of 27.9.77	Directive (*OJ* 19.10.77) and corrigendum (*OJ* 19.10.77)
Rear-view mirror*	71/127/EEC of 1.3.71	Directive (*OJ* 22.3.71)
	XI/453/76	Preliminary draft
	III/1569/78	Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress
Electrical connections between vehicles and their trailers	COM(68)633 FINAL	Commission proposal withdrawn. Further work in hand
Reverse and speedometer equipment	75/443/EEC of 26.6.75	Directive (*OJ* 26.7.75)
Electrical circuits	Work not started	
Maximum speed (method of determination)	Work not started	
Braking device*	71/320/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/132/EEC of 11.2.74	Commission directive (*OJ* 19.3.74)
	Adapted further to technical progress by 75/524/EEC of 25.7.75	Commission directive (*OJ* 8.9.75) and corrigendum (*OJ* 23.9.75)
	III/95/78 – Rev 2	Preliminary draft for further adaptation to technical progress
	COM(79)392 final/2	Commission directive adapting further to technical progress 71/320/EEC of 26.7.71
Safety glass	COM(72)981 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.11.72)
Interior fittings (interior part of the passenger compartment other than interior rear-view mirrors, layout of controls, roof or sliding roof, backrest and rear part of seats)	74/60/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
	78/632/EEC of 19.5.78	Commission directive adapting to Technical Progress Council directive 74/60/EEC
Arrangement of foot controls	XI/341/75	Preliminary draft
Identification of controls tell-tales and indicators	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
	78/316/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.78 L81/3)
Tyres	COM(76)712 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
Mechanical coupling equipment between vehicles and trailers	XI/14/77	Preliminary draft
Anchorages for safety belts	76/115/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Emission of pollutants by motor vehicles with diesel fuelled (compression ignition) engines	72/306/EEC of 2.8.72	Directive (*OJ* 20.8.72)
	Corrigendum to 72/306/EEC	(*OJ* 23.11.77)
External projections*	74/483/EEC of 17.9.74	Directive (*OJ* 2.10.74)
	COM(79)392 final/1	Commission directive adapting 74/483/EEC to technical progress
Head-restraints of seats	COM(74)2180 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75)
	78/932/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 20.11.78 L325)
Devices to prevent the unauthorised use of motor vehicles	74/61/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
Strength of seats and their anchorages	74/408/EEC of 22.7.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
Behaviour of the steering mechanism in the event of impact	74/297/EEC of 4.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 20.6.74)
Safety belts and restraint system	77/541/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Statutory plates and inscriptions, their location and method of attachment	76/114/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
	78/507/EEC of 19.5.78	Commission directive adapting 76/114/EEC to technical progress (*OJ* 13.6.78)
Windscreen defrosting and demisting systems	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
	78/317/EEC of 21.12.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.78) and corrigendum (*OJ* 19.7.78)
Interior fittings – seats (other than strength of seats and anchorages)	Work not yet started	
Special provision for public transport vehicles	XI/347/76	Preliminary draft
Special provisions for taxis	Work not started	
Special provisions for goods vehicles	XI/1042/76	Preliminary draft

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Towing devices	77/389/EEC of 18.5.77	Directive (*OJ* 13.6.77)
Legs of trailers and semi-trailers	XI/508/73 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Reflex reflectors	76/757/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Front fog lamps and filament lamps	76/762/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Rear registration plate lamps	76/760/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
End-outline marker lamps, front position (side) lamps, rear position (side) lamps, and stop lamps	76/758/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Headlamps	76/761/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Rear fog lamps	77/538/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77) Corrigendum (*OJ* 10.10.78 L284)
Parking lamps	77/540/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77) Corrigendum (*OJ* 10.10.78 L284)
Reversing lamps	77/539/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77) Corrigendum (*OJ* 10.10.78 L284)
Hazard warning devices	Work not started	
Springs	Work not started	
Verification of fuel consumption	XI/702/76	Preliminary draft
Heating systems	COM(76)702 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
	78/548/EEC of 12.6.78	Directive (*OJ* 26.6.78)
Wheel guards	COM(76)702 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
	78/549/EEC of 12.6.78	Directive (*OJ* 26.6.78)
Weights and dimensions	COM(76)701 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.1.77)
Tractors and agricultural machinery		
Type approval	74/150/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
	COM(78)682 FINAL	Commission amending proposal
Maximum design speed and load platforms	74/152/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Certain parts and characteristics	74/151/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Projecting parts	XI/48/74	Preliminary draft following reconsideration of COM(68)565 FINAL
Towable load	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration. Proposal withdrawn
Rear-view mirrors	74/346/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.7.74)
Lighting and light signalling devices	COM(74)895 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
	78/933/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 20.11.78 L325)
Steering equipment	75/321/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Power connection for lighting and light signalling devices	75/323/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Suppression of radio interference produced by spark-ignition engines	75/322/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Driver's seat	XI/604/76	Preliminary draft
	XI/693/76	Preliminary draft
	C229/16 (no COM FINAL issued)	Commission proposal to council of 26.9.77
	III/403/78	Further preliminary draft
	78/764/EEC of 25.7.78	Directive (*OJ* 18.9.78 L225)
Passenger seats	76/763/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Coupling between tractor and trailer	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration. Proposal withdrawn
Braking devices	76/432/EEC of 6.4.76	Directive (*OJ* 8.5.76)
Safety glass	XI/299/74	Preliminary draft
Emission of pollutants from diesel engines	77/537/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Tyres	Work not yet started	
Power take-off	III/401/78-FR	Preliminary draft
Field of vision and windscreen wipers	74/347/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.7.74)
Location and attachment of statutory plates and inscriptions	Work started but no papers yet available	
Length, width and unladen height	Work started but no papers yet available	
Maximum authorised weight on each axle and distribution of weight between axles	Work started but no papers yet available	
Maximum vertical load applied to mechanical coupling devices	XI/509/73	Preliminary draft
Speed governor	Work started but no papers yet available	
Reverse gear	III/247/78	Preliminary draft
Rollover protection structures	77/536/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
	XI/1036/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft technical annexes
	III/794/77	Modification of XI/1036/76 Rev 1
	COM(78)389 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 11.11.78)
Other means of protection against the weather	Work started but no papers yet available	
Location identification and operation of controls	XI/44/74	Preliminary draft
	III/340/78	Further preliminary draft
Coupling hooks (front coupling devices*	III/1199/77	Preliminary draft
	COM(78)385 FINAL	Commission proposal Directive adopted but not yet published
Driver-perceived noise level	77/311/EEC of 29.3.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.4.77)
Headlamps and incandescent electric filament lamps End-outline marker lamps Front position (side) lamps Rear position (side) and stop lamps Direction indicator lamps Reflex reflectors Rear registration plate lamps Front fog lamps and filament lamps for such lamps Rear fog lamps Reversing lamps Parking lamps	III/245/78-EN COM(78)380 FINAL	Preliminary draft Commission proposal (*OJ* 22.8.78)
Operating space access to the driving position (entry and exit facilities) and to the doors and windows	COM(78)678 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.1.79 C25)
Metrological		
General directive	71/316/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
	72/427/EEC of 19.12.72	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.72)
Clinical mercury-in-glass maximum reading thermometers	76/764/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Medium accuracy bar and cylindrical weights	71/317/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
Measuring of the standard mass per storage volume of grain	71/347/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Calibration of the tanks of vessels	71/349/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Material measures of length	73/362/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73)
	III/771/77 Rev 1	Preliminary draft Commission directive adapting 73/362/EEC to technical progress
	COM(78)134 FINAL	Commission proposal
	78/629/EEC of 19.6.78	Directive (*OJ* 29.7.78)
Non-automatic weighing machines	73/360/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73)
	76/696/EEC of 27.7.76	Commission directive Technical progress adaptation (*OJ* 27.8.76)
Electrical energy meters	76/891/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
Meters for liquids other than water	71/319/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 26.7.71)
Measuring systems for liquids other than water	77/313/EEC of 5.4.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.4.77)
Ancillary equipment for meters for liquids other than water	71/348/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Gas volume meters	71/318/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/331/EEC of 12.6.74	Commission directive (*OJ* 12.7.74)
	XI/355/76 Rev 3	Preliminary draft Second technical progress adaptation
	78/365/EEC of 31.3.78	Commission directive (*OJ* 18.4.78 L104)
Making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquids	75/106/EEC of 19.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.75)
	XI/948/76	Preliminary draft
	XI/1082/76	Preliminary draft
	COM(77)455 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 19.10.77)
	78/891/EEC	Commission directive adapting to technical progress the annexes of 75/106/EEC (*OJ* 4.11.78 L311)
Bottles used as measuring containers	75/107/EEC of 19.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.75)
Cold water meters	75/33/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 20.1.75)
Hot water meters	XI/996/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	COM(77)495 FINAL	Commission proposal
Thermal energy meters	III/214/77	Preliminary draft
Road and rail transport tanks for use as measuring containers		Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74) withdrawn (*OJ* 3.2.77 C26)
Taximeters	77/95/EEC of 21.12.76	Directive (*OJ* 31.1.77)
Alcoholmeters and alcohol hydrometers	76/765/EEC of 27.7.76 Corrigendum	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76) (*OJ* 5.3.77)
Alcohol tables	76/766/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Saccharimeters	Work started but no papers yet available	
Continuous totalising weighing machines	75/410/EEC of 24.6.75	Directive (*OJ* 14.7.75)
Instruments for determining the fat content of dairy produce	Work started but no papers yet available	
Metallic manometers	III/1919/72	Preliminary draft in abeyance. Further work in hand
Apparatus for measuring arterial pressure	Work started but no papers yet available	
Weights of from 1 mg to 50 kg of above medium accuracy	74/148/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Instruments for measuring moisture content of grain	XI/86/74	Preliminary draft
Electronic devices incorporated or associated with measuring instruments	XI/667/76 Rev 4	Preliminary draft
	III/379/78-F	Further preliminary draft
	COM(78)766 FINAL	Commission final proposal (*OJ* 15.2.79 C42)
Units of measurement	71/354/EEC of 18.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 29.10.71)
	76/770/EEC of 27.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
	Corrigenda to 76/770/EEC III/92/78-EN	(*OJ* 14.12.76) Preliminary draft amending directive
Check-weighing and grading machines *	COM(75)573 FINAL 78/1031/EEC of 5.12.78	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76) Directive (OJ 27.12.78 L364
Making up by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products	76/211/EEC of 20.1.76 III/348/78 78/891/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 21.2.76 L46) Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress Commission directive (*OJ* 4.11.78) adapting to technical progress the technical annexes of 76/211/EEC
Differential pressure gasmeters	Work not yet started	
Ranges of nominal quantities permitted for certain prepackaged products	COM(76)384 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 18.8.76)
Scales of charges for the testing of gas meters	COM(74)776 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 1.7.74)
Instruments for measuring pollution of air	Work not yet started	
Tyre pressure gauges	III/1528/78-EN Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Electrical		
Electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits	73/23/EEC of 19.2.73	Directive (*OJ* 26.3.73)
Electro-medical equipment Medical X-ray equipment	COM(74)2178 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 12.2.75)
Electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres (framework directive)	76/117/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Electrical equipment for use in explosive atmospheres (special directive)	XI/508/75 XI/1119/76 Rev 1 XI/79/77 XI/80/77 COM(77)660 FINAL 79/196/EEC	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft Amendment Amendment Commission proposal (*OJ* 6.1.78) Directive (*OJ* 20.2.79 L43)
Radio interference caused by electrical household appliances, portable tools and similar equipment	76/889/EEC of 4.11.76 Corrigendum	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76) (*OJ* 28.4.77 L105)
Suppression of radio interference from fluorescent lighting luminaries	76/890/EEC of 4.11.76 Corrigendum	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76) (*OJ* 28.4.77 L105)
Suppression of radio interference from radio and television sets	COM(73)569 FINAL	Commission proposal
Suppression of radio interference from industrial, scientific and medical equipment	COM(74)1181 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 6.3.75)
Plugs and sockets	XI/685/76	Preliminary draft withdrawn
Textiles		
Textile names	71/307/EEC of 26.7.71 75/36/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.71) Directive supplementing 71/307/EEC (*OJ* 20.1.75)
Quantitative analysis of binary textile fibre mixtures	72/276/EEC of 17.7.72	Directive (*OJ* 31.7.72)
Quantitative analysis of ternary fibre mixtures	73/44/EEC of 26.2.73	
Quantitative analysis mixtures of fibres of the same chemical nature	Work started but no papers yet available	Directive (*OJ* 30.3.73)
Elimination of foreign matter	Work started but no papers yet available	
Pressure vessels		
General directive	76/767/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Seamless steel gas cylinders	COM(72)1689 FINAL	Commission proposal
Aerosol dispensers	75/324/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Seamless aluminium alloy gas cylinders	COM(74)966 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Welded unalloyed steel gas cylinders	COM(74)965 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Unfired pressure vessels of welded steel	XI/584/75 XI/584/77 Rev 2 COM(78)702 FINAL	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft Commission final proposal (*OJ* 10.2.79 C37) Although the title of this proposal reads 'certain types of simple pressure vessels', the proposal in fact relates to unfired pressure vessels of welded steel
Shell boilers for producing steam or hot water	Work started but no papers yet available	
Dangerous substances and preparations		
Classification packaging and labelling of dangerous substances*	67/548/EEC of 27.6.67 73/146/EEC of 21.5.73 75/409/EEC of 24.6.75 76/907/EEC of 14.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.67) Amending directive (*OJ* 25.6.73) Amending directive (*OJ* 14.7.75) Commission directive adapting to technical progress 67/548/EEC (*OJ* 30.12.76)
	COM(76)433 FINAL Corrigendum to 76/907/EEC	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 5.11.76)
Classification packaging and labelling of pesticides	COM(74)2193 FINAL 78/631/EEC of 26.6.78	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.2.75) Directive (*OJ* 29.7.78)
Approval and putting into circulation of agricultural pesticides	15.175/VI/69 COM(76)427 FINAL	Preliminary draft Commission proposal
Explosives	13269/III/70	Preliminary draft
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations (solvents)	73/173/EEC of 4.6.73 III/ex XI/790/76 Rev 4 COM(77)718 FINAL	Directive (*OJ* 11.7.73) Draft amending directive Commission final proposal
Classification, packaging and labelling of paints, varnishes, glues and related products	COM(75)311 FINAL 77/728/EEC of 7.11.77	Commission proposal (*OJ* 23.7.75) Directive (*OJ* 28.11.77)
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous products of general use in the home (household preparations)	XI/780/76 XI/1/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft
·Corrosives	Work started but no papers yet available	
Detergents	73/404/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 17.12.73)
Methods of testing the biodegradability of anionic surfactants	73/405/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 17.12.73)
Methods of testing the biodegradability of non-ionic surfactants	XI/315/76 III/1293/77	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft
Detergents – toxicity	Work in abeyance	
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations	76/769/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain types of asbestos fibre	III/366/77 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances not covered by original directive (67/548/EEC)	III/365/77	Preliminary draft
Restrictions on the marketing and use of fancy lamps, ashtrays and other ornamental objects containing trichlorothylene, or carbon tetrachloride*	COM(79)84 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.3.79 C80)
Restrictions on the marketing and use of tris and phosphate in the treatment of certain articles which come into contact with the skin*	COM(79)123 FINAL	Commissiom proposal (*OJ* 12.4.79 C96)
Lifts and lifting apparatus		
Certification and marking of wire ropes, chains and hooks	73/361/EEC of 19.11.73 76/434/EEC of 13.4.76	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73) Commission directive (*OJ* 8.5.76) Adapting 73/361/EEC to technical progress
Common provisions for lifting and mechanical handling appliances (general directive)	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.9.75)
Tower cranes for building work and safety aspects thereof* (alteration in title)	XI/276/76 Rev 1 XI/882/76 COM(79)677 FINAL	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.1.79 C25)
Builders' hoists	Work started but no papers yet available	
Conveyor-belts	Work started but no papers yet available	
Electrically operated lifts	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.9.75)
Powered industrial trucks*	XI/768/76 COM(79)229 FINAL	Preliminary draft Commission proposal
Machine tools and machines		
Common provisions for the working of metals, wood, paper and other materials	XI/216/74 COM(77)656 FINAL	Preliminary draft Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.1.78)
Grinding wheels and grinding machines	XI/217/74	Preliminary draft
Portable grinding machines	XI/270/75 COM(77)656 FINAL	Preliminary draft (but now agreed to divide into three separate directives 9/3, 9/4, 9/5) Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.1.78)
Fixed grinding machines	Work started but no papers yet available	
Grinding wheels	Work started but no papers yet available	
Woodworking machines	Work started but no papers yet available	
Crystal glass		
Crystal glass	69/493/EEC of 15.12.69	Directive (*OJ* 29.12.69)
Oil pipelines		
Oil pipelines (construction)	COM(68)640 FINAL	Proposal withdrawn (*OJ* 3.2.77 C26)
Precious metals		
Articles made from precious metals	COM(75)607 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.1.76)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Gas appliances		
Framework directive for gas appliances and associated safety and control devices Instantaneous production of hot water for sanitary purposes	COM(74)2179 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.6.75)
Cookers	Work started but no papers yet available	
Central heating boilers	Work started but no papers yet available	
Gas governors	Work started but no papers yet available	
Independent space heaters	Work started but no papers yet available	
Fertilisers		
General directive	76/116/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Sampling and methods of analysis	77/535/EEC of 22.6.77 III/213/78-EN 79/138/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 22.8.77) Preliminary draft adapting 77/535/EEC to technical progress. Commission directive adapting 77/535/EEC to technical progress (*OJ* 14.2.79 L39)
Marketing of high nitrogen content ammonium nitrate based fertiliser	COM(75)635 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 23.1.76)
Marketing of liquid fertilisers	Work started but no papers yet received	
Gas pipelines		
Gas pipelines (construction)	18.871/III/69	Preliminary draft withdrawn with oil pipelines
Fuels		
Problem of the lead content of petrol	COM(73)2050 FINAL 78/611/EEC of 24.6.78	Commission proposal (*OJ* 31.1.74) Directive (*OJ* 22.7.78)
Sulphur content of certain liquid fuels	75/716/EEC of 24.11.75	Directive (*OJ* 27.11.75)
Use of fuel-oils with aim of decreasing sulphurous emissions	COM(75)681 FINAL COM(77)407 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76) Commission amending proposal
Rubber and plastics		
Reinforced plastic tanks for carriage of dangerous substances by road	COM(71)1446 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 15.3.72) Proposal withdrawn
Construction materials		
Cement	Work in abeyance	
Ceramic tiles	Work in abeyance	
Flat glass	XI/437/74 III/1417/77-EN	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft
PVC pipes	Work in abeyance	
Fire resistance	XI/790/75 Rev 2 III/1202/77-EN	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft
Water supply equipment	Work was proposed by the tripartite working group but the project was shelved	
Construction products (Framework directive)	III/1098/77-EN III/1098/77-E Rev 1 III/613/78-E III/1098/77-F Rev 2 COM(78)449 FINAL	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft Draft council resolution on product priorities Further preliminary draft Commission final proposal
Safety of glass products intended for use in buildings	III/1438/77-EN	Preliminary draft
Building and civil engineering equipment and machines		
General directive		
Determination of the noise produced by construction plant and equipment (alteration in title)	79/113/EEC of 19.12.78	Directive (*OJ* 8.2.79 L33)
Permissible sound level for pneumatic concrete-breakers and jackhammers	COM(74)2195 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75)
Permissible sound emission level for tower cranes	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Permissible sound level of grass cutting machines*	XI/28/75 Rev 1 III/1584/77-EN COM(78)387 FINAL	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft Commission final proposal (*OJ* 2.4.79 C88)
Permissible sound emission level for current generators for welding Permissible sound emission level for current generators for power supply	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Noise emitted by air compressors*	ENV/168/77 Rev 1 COM(78)121 FINAL Modification of COM(78)121 FINAL	Preliminary draft Commission proposal (*OJ* 19.4.78 C94) (*OJ* 3.4.79 C87)
Permissible sound emission level for dozers, loaders and excavators	ENV/487/78 ENV/488/78	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft
(Site safety)		
Roll-over protective structures*	XI/554/75	Preliminary draft
Falling-object protective structures*	XI/555/75 XI/344/78 111/440/Rev 1	Preliminary draft Further preliminary draft
Dimensions of operators' cabins	XI/556/75	Preliminary draft
Protecting guards and shields	XI/557/75	Preliminary draft
(Road safety)	Work started but no papers yet received	
Tower cranes: safety aspects	This item is now covered under the 'Lifts and lifting apparatus' sub heading	
Mopeds		
Type approval	COM(72)1645 FINAL COM(73)1732 FINAL	Commission proposal Commission amending proposal
Engines	Work started but no papers yet received	
Noise	Work started but no papers yet received	
Braking devices	XI/710/75	Preliminary draft
Motor cycles		
Type approval	COM(74)2177 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.2.75)
Permissible sound level and exhaust system	COM(75)634 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76 C54) Directive adopted but not yet published
Fuel system integrity	XI/567/75	Preliminary draft
Non-military arms and ammunition	Work started but no papers yet received	
Firefighting equipment		
Portable fire extinguishers	Work started but no papers yet received	
Metal scaffolding		
Working metal scaffolds	XI/34/76	Preliminary draft suspended sine die
Packaging materials	Work not yet started	
Educational materials	Work not yet started	
Equipment using ionising rays	Work started but no papers yet received	
Protective clothing and equipment		
Protective helmets (industrial)	Work started but no papers yet received	
Safety helmets for motor vehicle drivers and their passengers	XI/227/75	Preliminary draft
Respiratory protective devices	Work started but no papers yet received	
Industrial safety belts and harnesses	Work started but no papers yet received	
Eye protectors	Work started but no papers yet received	
Protective footwear	Work started but no papers yet received	
Boats and their fittings		
Type approval	COM(76)393 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 24.8.76)
Pleasure craft made of reinforced plastic	XI/592/74	Preliminary draft
Cosmetics		
Cosmetic products	76/768/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Toys		
Safety requirements*	XI/288/74 ENV/9/79-FR	Preliminary draft Further preliminary draft
Noise emitted by domestic appliances	ENV/45/78-FR	Preliminary draft

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* Preliminary draft technical progress adaptation.

Have you a good export picture?

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news.

Send your export photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Eleventh Floor, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1 4QU

Food-law harmonisation directives

Inquiries: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AE. Room and telephone numbers as follows: food: Room 514, tel. 01-216 6420; additives: Room 556, tel. 01-216 6114; materials, etc: Room 555, tel. 01-216 7277.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Food		
Cocoa and chocolate products	73/241/EEC of 24.7.73	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.73)
	74/411/EEC of 1.8.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
	74/644/EEC of 19.12.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.74)
	75/155/EEC of 4.3.75	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.3.75)
	76/628/EEC of 20.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 16.8.76)
	78/609/EEC of 29.6. 78	Amending directive (*OJ* 22.7.78)
	78/842/EEC of 10.10.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 17.10.78)
	COM(79)232 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 15.5.79)
Erucic acid levels in food	76/621/EEC of 20.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 28.7.76)
Certain sugars	73/437/EEC of 11.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 27.12.73)
	III/797/77	Preliminary draft
Certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk	76/118/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
	COM(77)155 FINAL	Commision proposal (*OJ* 25.5.77)
Honey	74/409/EEC of 22.7.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
Fruit juices and similar products	75/726/EEC of 17.11.75	Directive (*OJ* 1.12.75)
	79/168/EEC of 5.2.79	Amending directive (*OJ* 13.2.79)
Natural mineral waters	COM(70)441 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 11.6.70)
Foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses	77/94/EEC of 21.12.76	Directive (*OJ* 31.1.77)
Jams, marmalades, fruit jellies	COM(75)419 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 4.9.75)
Coffee extracts and chicory extracts	77/436/EEC of 27.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 12.7.77)
Labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs	79/112/EEC of 18.12.78	Directive (*OJ* 8.2.79)
Tomato products		
tomato concentrates	1821/VI/76	Preliminary draft
preserved tomatoes	1822/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Processing and handling of quick frozen foods	III/576/77	Preliminary draft
Casein and caseinates	COM(79)9 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 24.2.79)
Food additives		
Acids, bases and salts	2607/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Antioxidants	70/357/EEC of 13.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	74/412/EEC of 1.8.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
	78/143/EEC of 30.1.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 15.2.78)
	111/218/78	Preliminary draft
	78/664/EEC of 25.7.78	Directive on specific criteria of purity for antioxidants (*OJ* 14.8.78)
Colouring matters	2645 of 23.10.62	Directive (*OJ* 11.11.62)
	65/469/EEC of 25.10.65	Amending directives (*OJ* 26.10.65)
	67/653/EEC of 24.10.67	Amending directive (*OJ* 30.10.67)
	68/419/EEC of 20.12.68	Amending directive (*OJ* 24.12.68)
	70/358/EEC of 13.7.70	Amending directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	76/399/EEC of 6.4.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 26.4.76)
	78/144/EEC of EEC of 30.1.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 15.2.78)
	III/218/78	Preliminary draft
	111/290/79	Preliminary draft
Emulsifiers, stabilisers, thickeners and gelling agents	74/329/EEC of 18.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.7.74)
	78/612/EEC of 29.6.78 III/218/78	Amending directive (*OJ* 22.7.78)
	COM(79)184 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.5.79)
	78/663/EEC of 25.7.78	Directive on specific criteria of purity (*OJ* 14.8.78)
Flavourings	III/129/79	Preliminary draft
Preservatives	64/54/EEC of 5.11.63	Directive (*OJ* 27.1.64)
	65/569/EEC of 23.12.65	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.65)
	66/722/EEC of 14.12.66	Amending directive (*OJ* 20.12.66)
	67/427/EEC of 27.6.67	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.7.67)
	68/420/EEC of 20.12.68	Amending directive (*OJ* 24.12.68)
	70/359/EEC of 13.7.70	Amending directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	71/160/EEC of 30.3.71)	Amending directive (*OJ* 17.4.71)
	72/2/EEC of 20.12.71	Amending directive (*OJ* 4.1.72)
	72/444/EEC of 26.12.72	Amending directive (*OJ* 31.12.72)
	74/62/EEC of 17.12.73	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
	74/394/EEC of 22.7.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 30.7.74)
	76/462/EEC of 4.5.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 14.5.76)
	76/629/EEC of 20.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 16.8.76)
	78/145/EEC of 30.1.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 15.2.78)
	79/40/EEC of 18.12.78	Amending directive (*OJ* 19.1.79)
	zcom(78)488 final	Commission proposal
	III/218/78	Preliminary draft
	65/66/EEC of 26.1.65	Directive on specific criteria of purity for preservatives (*OJ* 9.2.65)
	67/428/EEC of 27.6.67	Amending directive on purity criteria (*OJ* 11.7.67)
	76/463/EEC of of 4.5.76	Amending directive on purity criteria (*OJ* 14.5.76)
Starches	III/973/77	Preliminary draft
Solvents	2373/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs		
General directive	76/893/EEC of 23.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 9.12.76)
Materials and articles in glass intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	687/VI/73	Preliminary draft
	2637/VI/75	Further preliminary draft
Materials and articles in stainless steel intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	688/VI/73	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles in ceramics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(74)2173 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.2.75)
Materials and articles in plastics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	3003/VI/74 4235/VI/75 980/VI/77	Preliminary draft
	COM(78)115 FINAL	Commission proposal
Methods of analysis for verifying the overall limit of migration into simulants by constituents of plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	1521/III/78	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles which contain vinyl chloride monomer and are intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(76)680 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 21.1.77)
	78/142/EEC of 30.1.78	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.78) and corrigendum (*OJ* 15.2.78)
Materials and articles in regenerated cellulose film intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	2642/VI/76	Preliminary draft

Consumer protection

The proposals listed in the table are not themselves new, but relate to general directives dealing with aspects of consumer protection.

Inquiries: Department of Trade, Consumer Affairs Division, Room 1902, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1, tel. 01-211 5132.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Approximation of the laws of member states on liability for defective products	COM(76)372 FINAL 23.7.76	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.10.76)
Consumer protection in respect of contracts negotiated away from business premises	COM(76)544 FINAL 12.1.77	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.1.77)
	COM(78)2 FINAL 12.1.78	Amending commission proposal
Protection of participants in home study courses	COM(77)404 FINAL 29.7.77	Commission proposal (*OJ* 31.8.77)
	COM(78)372 FINAL 26.7.78	Amending commission proposal
Standard terms in consumer contracts	ENV/384/76 August 1976	Preliminary draft
Misleading and unfair advertising	COM(77)724 FINAL 22.2.78	Commission proposal (*OJ* 21.3.78)
	COM(79)353 FINAL 6.7.79	Amending commission proposal
Consumer credit	COM(79) 69 FINAL 23.2.79	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.3.79)
Price display harmonisation	III/755/78	Preliminary draft
	III/775/78 Rev 1 4.10.78	Amended preliminary draft

In addition, a directive on the indication of the pricing of foodstuffs, which was put forward under article 235 of the treaty of Rome, was adopted on 18 June 1979. The text of this directive (79/581/EEC) was published in the *Official Journal* on 26 June 1979.

Overseas trade news

British skills still in demand – Parkinson

British contractors, consulting engineers, architects and surveyors earned nearly £700 million overseas in 1978, doubling the figure reached three years earlier. Cecil Parkinson, Minister of State for Trade, gave this figure at the opening of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' exhibition 'Surveying the world' on 19 July, when he emphasised the importance of Britain's invisible export earners at a time when the UK's trade in goods continued to run in the red.

Last year, he said, UK gross invisible receipts totalled more than £18 billion, slightly more than the whole of this country's earnings from finished manufactures. After allowing for the heavy deficit on government transactions the net surplus on invisibles was still over £1.5 billion.

Invisible earnings and the return on overseas investments had been a major feature of the British economy for over 200 years, he continued. There had only been a surplus on Britain's manufactures on eight occasions since the end of the eighteenth century. 'It is still not widely realised that this country is more dependent on its earnings from invisibles as a source of income than any other major industrial country in the world. Despite the somewhat gloomy outlook for world economic growth the Committee on Invisible Exports' survey of prospects this year suggests that the net overseas earnings of the major British service industries should grow by 5 to 6 per cent so maintaining or slightly increasing our share of world invisible trade.'

Mr Parkinson explained that the construction industry's contribution to Britain's invisible exports was one of the country's major success stories. Its performance was a measure of the industry's growing belief in its ability to win contracts anywhere in the world and a demonstration that there was still a huge demand for British skills and talent in every part of the world.

Overseas investment insured by ECGD totals £80m

Investment insured under the Export Credits Guarantee Department's overseas investment insurance scheme stands at £80 million.

In its annual report on the scheme, published on 25 July, ECGD says that in the financial year ended 31 March, 78 applications for insurance were received for new investment overseas worth £72 million; 37 offers of insurance were made for projects worth £20 million; and 30 insurance agreements were signed by ECGD worth nearly £17 million.

At the end of the financial year there were 146 current agreements covering intended investments of over £80 million, with 134 applications outstanding for £98 million of investment.

No claims have been paid by ECGD since the beginning of the scheme in 1972, but some claims payments are expected to be made this year for investments in Iran, Nigeria and Zaire. No reliable estimate of the amount can yet be made.

The overseas investment insurance scheme covers new equity and loan investments in overseas enterprises. Insurance cover is for a minimum of three years and for a maximum of 15 years. It covers the risks of expropriation, war damage and restrictions on remittances to the UK.

The scheme can offer assistance with new investment overseas which may be encouraged by the relaxation of exchange control recently announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (see *Trade and Industry*, 27 July, page 198).

The annual report is available from HMSO, price 20p.

Ronald Wilson, president of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (right), welcomes Cecil Parkinson to the institution's 'Surveying the world' exhibition.

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ECGD guarantees loan for Romania's BAe 1-11s

A £20.4 million loan which Lloyds Bank has made available to the Romanian Bank for Foreign Trade is being backed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

The loan will help finance a contract awarded to British Aerospace earlier this year by Technoimportexport, the Romanian state enterprise for foreign trade, for the supply of three BAe 1-11 aircraft and spares.

This contract for the delivery of three complete aircraft is one of a series of contracts between British Aerospace and Romania which are part of a collaborative venture under which a further 22 aircraft will be built in Romania.

BOTB sponsors 'Selling to Japan' clinics

A series of private consultations or 'export clinics' to be held throughout Britain to advise businessmen on how to sell in Japan is being organised by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Japan Task Force, an Anglo-Japanese body set up in 1976 to look at ways of increasing UK exports of manufactured goods to Japan.

Under the auspices of the task force, a team of experts on selling in Japan has been visiting the regions to hold private discussions with local businessmen interested in entering the Japanese market or expanding their sales there. So far this year the team has visited Durham, Belfast and Leeds. The team's programme includes further clinics in Manchester on 18 to 29 September, Glasgow on 3 to 4 October and Birmingham in the first week of November.

The team is made up of two members of the BOTB's Exports to Japan Unit, a representative of a Japanese trading company in London and a member of the staff of the Japan Trade Centre. So far it has had individual consultations with nearly 40 companies manufacturing a wide range of both capital and consumer goods. Discussions have covered all aspects of export promotion, including methods of selling, selection of agents and distributors, manufacture under licence and sales of capital equipment to Japanese firms undertaking projects in third countries.

The export clinics are being organised in conjunction with BOTB regional offices and local or regional development authorities.

Venues have not yet been selected for the export clinics in Manchester, Glasgow and Birmingham but firms interested in further details can contact Roy Smith, BOTB North-western Regional Office, Sunley Buildings, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester; John Fleming, BOTB Office for Scotland, Alhambra House, 45 Waterloo Street, Glasgow; and Granville Fox, BOTB West Midlands Regional Office, Ladywood House, Stephenson Street, Birmingham.

Trade opportunities in western US

British companies interested in taking advantage of the export opportunities that exist in one of the richest manufacturing and consumer markets in the world, the west coast of the United States, will be given the opportunity to study the market at a series of seminars in Edinburgh, Bristol, Sheffield and Cardiff in September.

The seminars, being organised by the British Overseas Trade Board's north American advisory group, will examine the potential of the west-coast market – the states of California, Arizona, Oregon and Washington – and show British exporters how best to take advantage of it.

Speakers at the seminars will include Tom Aston, British consul-general in Los Angeles, and representatives from the Bank of America, the San Diego chamber of commerce, and the London buying houses for store groups and United States companies based in the UK. They will provide a comprehensive insight into the business and economic climate, the market for British goods, the attractiveness of the area for setting up a business, and advice on the extensive financial facilities in the area.

The emphasis in west coast industry has tended to be on technology-intensive industries such as aerospace, electronics, defence, computers and pharmaceuticals. In addition, the high per capita income level of the region means that there is a strong and unsatisfied demand throughout the region for traditional British consumer goods of high quality. And also the west-coast cities, particularly Seattle, are becoming important ports for shipments of exports to the developing markets of south-east Asia, Japan and China.

Further information on the seminars is available from Mr H. J. James, BOTB, North American Advisory Group, Room 558, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5328.

Crown Agents: suppliers

Firms wishing to be considered as suppliers to the Crown Agents (see *Trade and Industry*, 13 July) should write with full details about their company and product to: Branch PR9A, Crown Agents, 4 Millbank, London SW1P 3JD, tel. 01-222 7730.

Judging panel for export travel scheme set up in south west

South western exporters have been urged to apply for travel awards worth up to £500 which would enable shopfloor representatives to visit overseas export markets.

Dr Bill Darlington, chairman of the 'Export United' campaign's regional liaison committee, gave, on 23 July, the names of the judging panel which would assess entries from firms in Avon, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire.

Members of the panel, to be chaired by Dr Darlington, are Brian Bailey, chairman of the south-west regional council of the Trades Union Congress; Alec Ewens, marketing director of Bristol Composite Materials, Avonmouth; Jack Evans, the British Overseas Trade Board's director (exports) for the south west and John Shore, chief executive, Bristol chamber of commerce.

The award scheme, introduced by William and Glyn's Bank in association with the sponsors of the 'Export United' campaign, is intended to encourage greater understanding among shopfloor staff of the problems facing exporters, and to let them see how their firms' products are used overseas.

'We can really claim in the south west to have already been highly successful in introducing this concept, as a shop steward from Bristol Composite Materials went out to Saudi Arabia on a trade mission at the end of last year', said Dr Darlington. 'The experience gained on this mission proved invaluable, and the shop steward, Norman Burge, has said that his experiences in the middle east have considerably changed his views about exporting.'

Nationally, the scheme will give a maximum of 12 travel awards which will be made on a regional basis. Candidates must be sponsored by their employers, who will be required to cover the cost of the overseas visit. Half of the cost will be refunded – subject to a maximum of £500 per visit – by Williams and Glyn's Bank. Application forms must be returned by 30 September.

Nichols appointed to BOTB

Geoffrey C. Nichols, chairman and managing director of Rotaprint Ltd, has been appointed a member of the British Overseas Trade Board by trade secretary John Nott.

Mr Nichols joined the British National Export Council's Asia committee in 1967 and became chairman of the Japan trade advisory group in 1969. He continued as chairman when the Japan trade advisory group was reconstituted under the newly formed British Overseas Trade Board in 1969. He is also chairman of the UK-Korea trade advisory group and led the London chamber of commerce trade missions to Korea in 1974, 1976 and 1978.

Agricultural mission to east Africa planned

An outward mission to east Africa is being sponsored by the British Agricultural Export Council early in 1980.

Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi are the countries to be visited between 28 January 1980 and 16 February 1980 by the mission, which has the backing of the British Overseas Trade Board.

Further details are available from Robert Whitcombe, BAEC, 35 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QN, tel. 01-245 9819. The cut off date for applications is 22 September.

'Hints to exporters' on Iraq published

A revised edition of the 'Hints to exporters' booklet on Iraq has been published.

British exporters can order these booklets by post, accompanied by the appropriate remittance, from the Department of Trade, Publications Sales Unit, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, at £1 per copy, plus postage and packing as follows: one copy 20p; two to four copies 30p; five to seven copies 40p; more than seven post free.

Copies may also be purchased by personal callers at Export House and at the offices of the Department of Industry.

UK-Korean policy consultations held in London

UK and Korean delegations at the first of what is hoped to be a regular series of Anglo-Korean policy consultations held in London on 16 and 17 July. The Korean delegation was led by Mr M. Y. Rhie, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea (second from right) and the British delegation was headed by Mr H. A. H. Cortazzi, Deputy Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (extreme right). The policy consultations covered a broad spectrum of international and bilateral topics including the opportunities for economic co-operation leading to increased trade and investment between the UK and Korea. The next meeting will be held in Seoul in 1980.

Talks urge more trade between UK and Czechoslovakia

Both delegations to the seventh session of the UK/Czechoslovak joint commission which was held in London from 16 to 20 July expressed a strong desire for a more rapid expansion of trade.

The joint commission reviewed progress since the last session of the joint commission both on the general development of trade and in the development of economic, industrial, technological and scientific co-operation between the two countries. It also examined prospects for further development and diversification in these fields during the coming year.

The positive achievements in the development of bilateral trade in the past year were noted and the commission discussed possibilities for co-operation in an extensive range of industries and particularly promising prospects were noted in coal and energy, metallurgy, vehicles, chemicals and agriculture. Proposals were also exchanged for a number of projects aimed at further developing joint projects in third countries.

The joint commission met under the joint chairmanship of Rex Browning, Under-Secretary at the Department of Trade, and Mr R. Stolar, Director General in the Czechoslovak Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade. The UK delegation included representatives from the energy, automotive, computer, pulp processing, electronics and metallurgical industries as well as government officials.

The next meeting of the joint commission will be held in Prague during the second quarter of 1980.

Signing the protocol at the end of the Czechoslovak-UK trade talks.

Revised report on international road haulage permits

A revised report on international road haulage permits was published on 23 July by the Department of Transport.

The revised report concentrates on current permit allocation policies which are of direct and immediate concern to both hauliers and users of road goods transport in the international field.

The report can be obtained by sending 55p with a 9p stamped addressed envelope, minimum size 9 in × 12 in, to the Department of Transport, Room S18/24, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 3EB.

Review of origin marking announced by Oppenheim

A review of origin marking of imported goods and a formal reference to the National Consumer Council to see whether consumers want and need such markings were announced by Sally Oppenheim, Minister for Consumer Affairs, on 25 July.

In reply to a parliamentary question she said that she had asked officials to carry out a review of policy and the secretary for trade had recently made a formal reference to the council to undertake a survey to establish whether consumers want and need to know the country in which consumer goods were made and how and in what way any country of origin information already available affected their buying decisions.

Wide consultations

Mrs Oppenheim added: 'If we should decide to introduce origin marking in the consumer interest under the Trade Descriptions Act 1968 – either generally or for particular types of goods – then we would, of course, consult widely with interested parties.'

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1748: imports of carpets from Romania

Notice to importers 1727 (*Trade and Industry*, 19 January 1979) gave details of quota levels for imports into the UK of restricted goods from, among other countries, Romania.

Imports of carpets, carpeting and rugs, knotted (made-up or not) falling within tariff heading 58.01 and originating in Romania are at present subject to quantitative restrictions when imported into the UK. Following consultation with the EEC, certain hand-made carpets falling within the above tariff heading and originating in Romania will be licensed freely from 3 August 1979 provided they are certified by the Romanian authorities as hand-made.

Hand-made carpets: licensing arrangements

Importers of such carpets should obtain from their suppliers a correctly completed handloom certificate issued by Chamber of Commerce of the Socialist Republic of Romania, 22 Bulevardul Republicii, Bucarest, in the form set out in annex 1 to this notice. The certificate, together with a completed form ILB/A should be sent to Import Licensing Branch, where each application will be examined before the necessary licence is issued. Import licences issued under these arrangements will be valid for six months.

Machine-made carpets: reduction in quota

As a consequence of the liberalisation from restriction of hand-made carpets the quantitative limit for industrially-made carpets has been reduced for 1979. The quota now established for such goods exported from Romania during the period 1 July to 31 December 1979 has been exceptionally agreed as follows:

Category no./Tariff heading/Description	Quantity 1 Jul to 31 Dec
58/58.01 Carpets, carpeting and rugs, knotted (made-up or not)	90.5 tonnes

Imports for re-export

Imports of restricted textiles will not be set off against the quotas if they are re-exported in the same state or after limited processing.

The general import licensing arrangements for restricted textiles re-exported from the UK are set out in NTI 1740.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 280.

Annex 1

Certificate in regard to handlooms, textile handicrafts and traditional products, of the cottage industry.

name and address of manufacturer

name and address of exporter

name and address of the importer within the community

description of the goods

quantity (in tonnes)

name of vessel or flight number

port or airport of destination

the following declaration:
'I the undersigned certify that the consignment described above includes only the following textile products of the cottage industry of the country shown:
- a fabrics woven on looms operated solely by hand or foot (handlooms)
- b garments or other textile articles obtained manually from the fabrics described under a and sewn solely by hand without the aid of any machine (handicrafts)
- c traditional folklore handicraft textile products made by hand, as defined in the list agreed between the European Economic Community and the country shown'

Signed ....

Overseas trade country data

Australia

Miscellaneous textile products. As part of the tariff review announced in *Trade and Industry*, 6 July, the Australian government has requested the Industries Assistance Commission to inquire into and to report by 31 December 1981 on the question whether assistance should be provided to the sector of industry concerned with the production in Australia of:

Monofil, strip and imitation catgut falling within item 51.02; elastic and elastomeric fabrics and articles falling within items 51.04.39, 58.05.11, 58.05.31, 59.13, 60.01.2, 60.06.1, 60.06.2 or 60.06.9; other narrow fabrics falling within item 58.05 not being terry towelling and similar terry fabrics; animal hair falling within item 53.02; flax and ramie and goods thereof falling within an item of chapter 54; cotton, cotton linters and cotton waste falling within items 55.01, 55.02 or 55.03; yarn and woven fabrics of jute or textile base fibres, falling within items 75.06 or 57.10; moquettes falling within item 58.04; labels, badges and the like falling within item 58.06; chenille yarn, braids, ornamental trimmings, tassels, pompons, and the like falling within item 58.07.2 or 58.07.9; embroidery falling within item 58.10; wadding and articles of wadding and other goods falling within item 59.01; articles of bonded fibre fabrics or of similar bonded yarn fabrics falling within item 59.03.9; twine, cordage, ropes and cables and articles falling within items 59.04 or 59.06; impregnated, coated, covered or laminated fabrics falling within items 59.08.1, 59.08.2, 59.08.4, 59.08.5, 59.08.9 or 59.12; wicks, gas mantle fabric and gas mantles falling within item 59.14; transmission, conveyor or elevator belts or belting falling within item 59.16; textile fabrics and articles of a kind commonly used in machinery or plant, falling within item 59.17; tarpaulins, sails, awnings, sunblinds, tents and other textile articles falling within item 62.04 or 62.05; or worn clothing and other textile products falling within item 63.01.

UK firms and trade associations intending to submit evidence at the public hearing, the date and location of which will be published as soon as they are known, should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay. Evidence may be submitted either through the accredited agent of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian-British Trade Association, 6th Floor, Dorland House, 18-20 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PW, who will represent UK interest if authorised. The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work involved in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 1215/79

Copying film. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 6 April, reported that the Australian government had requested the Industries Assistance Commission to inquire into and report on the assistance needs of the sector of industry producing coated copying film and goods made therefrom.

The commission has now issued a draft report which is being made available to interested parties to give them an opportunity to examine and comment on it before final recommendations are made to government.

The commission will hold a further public hearing on 16 August at 10.00 hrs in the Public Inquiry Room, Industries Assistance Commission, 16th Floor, 59 Goulburn Street, Sydney, NSW 2000, to receive submissions.

A copy of the draft report may be obtained on loan from Department of Trade, Room 363, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 731/79

Costa Rica

Pharmaceutical products. Under law 6219, which amends parts of Industrial Property Law 40 of 22 June 1896, it is now possible to import, manufacture, sell, purchase and trade in medicine and articles and substances for therapeutic use.

The products and the processes of manufacture may be patented for a maximum of one year if the manufacture or process is carried out wholly in Costa Rica. Patents may only be registered if they are registered in the country where the applicant is domiciled, and the application must be accompanied by a certificate issued by the Ministry of Health.

An unofficial translation of the new law – which came into effect on 9 May 1978 – is available in the Chancery House annexe of the Science Reference Library (Holborn Division), Chancery House, Lower Ground Floor, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1AY.

France

Bed sheets. A notice was published in the French *Official Journal*, 8 July, concerning standards for bed sheets.

The provisions of paragraph 6 of the standard NF G 33-002 concerning the marking of dimensions on bed sheets have been made obligatory. These provisions will take effect four months from the date of publication of the order in the *Official Journal*.

Copies of the French text only of this notice are available on request from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 423/408/439.

Jordan

Agency legislation. The *Official Gazette* 2862, 1 June, contained an amendment to the Commercial Agents and Intermediaries Law 20 of 1974.

Copies of the amended version are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7062/420.

Mauritius

Budget 1979. The Minister of Finance has announced the introduction of stamp duty of 2 per cent based on the cif value of all imports.

It was also announced that the rates of duties on a wide range of items have been amended as from 12 June.

No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel. direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757. In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Morocco

Import duties. The Ministry of Finance has announced changes of duty for imports within the terms of tariff items 74.15, 75.06, 76.16, 77.03, 77.04, 81.01, 81.02, 81.03, 81,04 which covers materials suitable for fixing orthopaedic items for medical/surgical use imported on behalf of or for professionals. Justification of use can be insisted upon with supporting documentation.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

Import licensing. It has been announced that as from 1 June CCCN 48.01, paper for publications and periodicals, has been removed from list A (liberalised) to list B (licence required).

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

New Zealand

Sales tax. In the budget the New Zealand government has made changes to the sales tax on certain products. These changes came into effect on 22 June and are as follows:

Oil and fuel products
A tax of ½ cent per litre on all diesel fuel (other than marine diesel) and a tax of 5 cents per litre on jet fuel.

The tax on home heating oil and kerosene has been increased to 4 cents per litre.

Beer, spirits and tobacco
Sales tax will be introduced on beer at 30 per cent and on cigarettes and other tobacco products at 15 per cent. Sales tax on spirits will be increased to 40 per cent.

Motor vehicles
Motor vehicles (including motor cycles and motor scooters) taken to New Zealand by returning New Zealanders will not be exempt from customs duty and sales tax.

Farm motor bikes
Sales tax refund concession will apply only to machines up to 350 cc.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Portugal

Extension of duty exemption. According to despacho normativo 130/79, published in the *Diario da República*, 1st series, 132, 8 June, the provisions of decree law 238/76 of 6 April have been extended for a further period of one year. This decree law exempts from import duty the spare parts and pieces of hunting rifles and sports guns falling under BN heading 93.06.02

and 93.06.03, whenever they are imported by national manufacturers for incorporating in rifles of their own manufacture.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458.

Sierra Leone

Tariff changes. The Minister of Finance, for the budget for the financial year 1979-80, announced on 29 June the following tariff changes:

1 From 1 August 1979, all agricultural imports including fertilisers, pesticides and animal feed with vitamins, agricultural machinery for soil preparation, harvesting and threshing will, in addition to the existing importation duty fee, be exempt from import licence fee and invoice entry fee.

2 All machinery and equipment imported for the sole use of agro-based industries located in the provinces are exempt from customs duty.

3 Fishing companies incorporated in Sierra Leone will not pay customs duty on fishing boats imported for the activities of such companies. (The continuation of this concession will depend on satisfactory performance.)

4 The essential food items which are listed below will, with effect from 23 July 1979, be exempt from customs duty, import licence fee and invoice entry fee.

03.01	Fish, fresh (live or dead), chilled or frozen
03.02	Fish, dried, salted or in brine, smoked fish, whether or not cooked before or during smoking process
04.01	Milk
04.02	Milk powder
07.01	A Potatoes, other than sweet potatoes C Onions and garlic
09.02	Tea
09.09.1	Ogusi
10.01	Wheat and meslin (mixed wheat and rye)
10.05	Maize
10.06	Rice
11.01	Cereal flours
11.06 A	Garrie
15.07	Mixed vegetable oils, or fluid or solid, crude, refined or purified: A Soya bean oil C Groundnut oil H Palm oil i Coconut (Copra) oil M Other
15.13	Margarine
16.04 B	Sardines in airtight containers
17.01	Sugar
18.06 B	Preparation of flour, starch or malt extract used as infants' food or for dietetic purposes
19.02 B	Of a kind used as infants' food
19.05.1	Specially prepared for baby food
20.02 A	Tomato purée and paste
20.02 B	Vegetable baby food
21.07	Preparations specially for infants

5 Medicines from British Pharmacopia and British Pharmaceuticals Codex will continue to be imported duty free. The customs duty on medicines from other sources will be reduced by 50 per cent, that is from 40 per cent to 20 per cent *ad valorem*.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 473.

CRE tel. Direct dialling
OTAR tel. 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

South Africa

Industrial rebates. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 6 July.

R.1478, items 316.01 and 317.06, CCCN 73.27 and 87.06: 1 Provision is made for a rebate of the full duty on reinforcing material of iron or steel wire with a diameter not exceeding 1 mm, for the manufacture of air filter elements. 2 The provision for a rebate of duty on components for the manufacture of steering wheels is no longer restricted to those components which are wholly or principally of metal.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Sri Lanka

Import duty changes. The Sri Lankan government has announced changes in the import duty on the following items:

With effect from midnight on 19 March:

CCCN/Description	Duty
ex 84.06 Parts of engines except for aircraft and excluding cylinder blocks	25%
ex 87.06 Parts of motor vehicles excluding shock absorbers, piston assembly and chassis with or without fittings for vehicles with a gross weight of 1750 kg or over	25%

With effect from midnight on 11 May:

CCCN/Description	Duty
55.03 Cotton waste (including pulled or garnetted rags) not carded or combed	5%
ex 84.17 Domestic solar heaters	25%
ex 85.15 Antennas	12½%

With effect from midnight on 13 May:

CCCN/Description	Duty
ex 04.02 Sweetened condensed milk	15%
ex 39.07 Floats for fishing lines and nets	Free
ex 40.02 Factice	12½%
ex 45.03 Floats for fishing nets	Free
ex 45.04 Floats for fishing nets	Free
ex 64.05 Soles whether or not attached to the uppers	Rs25 per pair
ex 97.07 Fish hooks	Free
ex 98.03 Pen barrels	Rs2 per unit

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7062/420.

Sudan

Duties and taxes. From 28 May increases in the customs tariff on items 22.04, 22.05, 22.06, 22.07 and 22.09 have come into effect.

Import taxes. It has also been announced that from 28 May a defence tax of 5 per cent of the import price will be levied (by the Sudanese Customs) on all goods. Sugar and imports under diplomatic privilege will be exempt. The President of the Republic may, on the recommendation of the Ministry of Finance and National Economy, grant exemption for part or whole consignments of any commodity. No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

Sweden

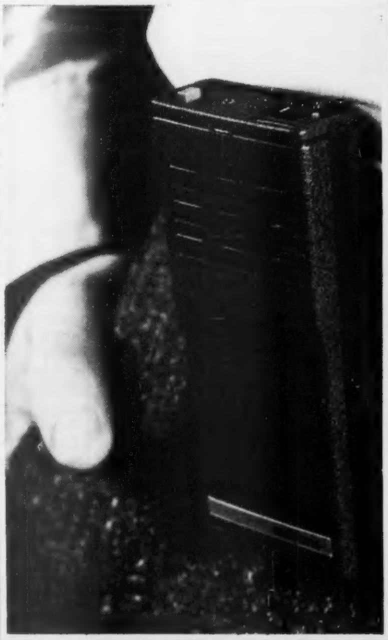
Pig-iron to the EEC. The Swedish government has decided that export licences will be required for exports of pig-iron to the European community as from 16 July.

This is to ensure that the special arrangements made with the EEC (ECSC) on the prices and quantities of certain iron and steel products to be supplied are adhered to by Swedish suppliers.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5305.

On call at McMaster

An RA106 loud-call receiver, one of 300 installed as part of a Multitone dual-code-format Access 1800 radio paging system with synthesised voice which has been installed at McMaster University Medical Centre, Hamilton, Ontario. One channel provides coverage throughout the eight-acre site and the other extended coverage across the entire city. Traffic level of the paging system previously used at the hospital was around 800 calls per day. All calls were made by one of two operators, who also handled the answering service for some 70 doctors. Frequent and lengthy delays – a three-minute wait was not unusual – were met by those attempting to use the service. The new system handles between 1000 and 1200 paging calls per day, with about 65 per cent using telephone access and synthesised voice. The remainder are handled by a single operator, who also deals with the answering service as before.



Statistics

The economy: selected indicators[1]

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers'	Retailers'	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1975 prices		at 1975 prices			at 1975 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1975											
Series in		£ million	£ million			£ million				£ million		
Stock level at end-1977						34,469	19,995	4,540	3,181			
1973	103.3	65 586	21 609	3 504	4 674	2 983	1 336	432	624	−967	−2 383	1 416
1974	101.4	64 162	21 173	3 822	4 605	1 459	1 288	361	−180	−3 550	−5 235	1 685
1975	100.0	63 328	20 536	3 522	3 841	−1 623	−1 221	−249	−100	−1 787	−3 236	1 449
1976	102.9	63 479	20 395	3 345	3 926	245	316	131	13	−1 072	−3 601	2 529
1977	104.9	62 897	19 961	3 573	4 325	949	442	266	29	371	−1 744	2 115
1978	108.2	66 431	20 456	3 856	4 677	1 034	597	6	333	443	−1 175	1 618
1976 3rd qtr	103.3	15 910	5 177	849	1 005	160	99	81	46	−421	−1 136	715
4th qtr	104.2	15 989	4 955	856	1 014	1 014	1 264	17	27	−292	−966	674
1977 1st qtr	103.8	15 610	4 821	851	1 030	402	235	82	117	−401	−946	545
2nd qtr	104.5	15 535	5 010	879	1 044	289	97	179	4	−253	−779	526
3rd qtr	104.8	15 849	5 057	910	1 103	−73	−6	−80	−59	513	−3	516
4th qtr	106.5	15 903	5 073	932	1 149	331	116	85	−33	512	−16	528
1978 1st qtr	106.0	16 326	5 152	923	1 162	323	38	81	62	−369	−596	227
2nd qtr	108.4	16 456	5 147	963	1 174	295	272	−62	128	208	−173	381
3rd qtr	109.2	16 831	5 132	982	1 162	304	175	45	54	154	−367	521
4th qtr	109.2	16 818	5 025	988	1 179	112	112	−59	89	450	−39	489
1979 1st qtr	107.4	17 609 pe	4 927	946	1 209	378	83	100	87	−787	−11 81	394
2nd qtr										−231 p	−561	330 p
% change last 2 qtrs on prev. 2 qtrs.	−0.5	+2.9	−3.2	−0.6	+2.2							
on a year earlier	+1.9	+5.6	−2.7	+4.3	+3.3							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and earnings					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Average gross earnings of all employees (GB, all industries and services covered)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Export	Import
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manufactured products: home sales		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	On a balance of payment basis	
	at 1975 prices		at 1971 prices		(not seasonally adjusted)				(old series)				at 1975 prices	
Base of index	1975	1975	1971		Jan. 1974		1975	1975	Jan. 1970				1975	1975
£m in base year			16,296										19,463	22,699
Series in				thousands						thousands		thousands		
1974	105.1	106.5	109.0	102.8	108.5	16.0	86.8	81.8	179.1	599.7[2]	2.6[2]	301.6[2]	104.2	109.7
1975	100.0	100.0	106.7	97.2	134.8	24.2	100.0	100.0	226.6	929.1	3.9	148.0[2]	100.0	100.0
1976	102.0	101.4	106.5	104.7	157.1	16.5	127.0	117.3	261.8	1 269.3[2]	5.3[2]	119.7[2]	109.7	105.6
1977	105.8	102.8	103.6	107.1	182.0	15.8	145.6	140.5	288.5	1 378.0	5.7	155.8[2]	118.9	107.2
1978	109.7	103.6	109.2	130.1	197.1	8.3	144.6	153.3	330.2	1 376.5	5.7	210.4	122.9	112.6
1977 1st qtr	105.6	103.9	103.3	102	174.1	16.5	144.8	133.0	280.2	1 333.3	5.5	..	115.9	108.8
2nd qtr	105.5	102.4	102.4	104	181.9	17.4	148.8	139.6	284.4	1 353.4	5.6	154.3	117.7	110.6
3rd qtr	106.3	103.0	104.2	110	184.7	16.5	146.5	143.8	289.1	1 403.1	5.8	153.7	124.6	107.3
4th qtr	105.9	101.8	104.7	113	187.4	13.1	142.2	145.8	300.3	1 422.2	5.9	163.6	117.3	102.3
1978 1st qtr	106.9	102.2	106.4	128	190.6	9.5	140.2	149.2	310.9	1 415.7	5.9	185.9	119.6	113.5
2nd qtr	110.7	104.5	107.9	133	195.8	7.7	146.3	151.8	327.8	1 388.6	5.7	206.3	122.2	109.7
3rd qtr	111.5	105.1	110.7	133	199.2	7.8	144.9	154.8	335.7	1 367.9	5.7	215.2	124.8	114.9
4th qtr	109.9	102.6	111.7	127	202.6	8.1	147.1	157.3	346.4	1 333.7	5.5	234.2	124.8	112.3
1979 1st qtr	109.1	101.4	110.3	131	208.9	9.6	152.2	161.6	356.5	1 356.7	5.6	232.6	110.3	113.3
2nd qtr			117.0 p	179	216.6	10.6	160.5 p	167.9 p		1 304.2	5.4	255.0	134.2	129.0
1978 May	110.0	103.5	108.2	127	195.7	7.7	146.8	151.9	326.2	1 384.8	5.7	205.6	120.5	113.3
Jun	111.1	104.9	108.6	142	197.2	7.4	147.0	152.7	333.0	1 378.1	5.7	213.4	121.9	111.1
Jul	111.6	105.1	111.0	111	198.1	7.8	145.8	153.8	333.2	1 370.2	5.7	211.1	125.7	114.3
Aug	112.1	105.9	111.7	142	199.4	8.0	144.2	154.8	334.7	1 373.4	5.7	211.8	124.5	111.3
Sep	110.8	104.4	109.6	144	200.2	7.8	144.8	155.7	339.2	1 360.2	5.6	222.8	124.3	119.1
Oct	108.7	101.8	110.2	133	201.1	7.8	145.7	156.6	344.5	1 349.9	5.6	231.8	125.9	110.8
Nov	109.7	102.5	110.5	126	202.5	8.1	147.3	157.1	344.5	1 331.7	5.5	234.9	122.5	113.7
Dec	111.1	103.3	113.8	121	204.2	8.4	148.3	158.3	350.1	1 319.6	5.5	235.9	126.0	112.5
1979 Jan	103.6	93.4	109.6	121	207.2	9.3	150.8	160.0	344.7	1 342.1	5.6	235.7	113.0	107.1
Feb	111.4	104.2	110.4	117	208.9	9.6	152.2	161.7	355.6	1 366.5	5.7	228.9	100.7	117.0
Mar	112.3	106.5	110.8	156	210.6	9.8	153.5	163.2	369.3	1 361.5	5.6	233.1	117.3	115.7
Apr	113.2	105.3	115.4	158	214.2	10.1	158.4	165.5	368.1	1 327.4	5.5	245.3	128.4	127.2
May	113.9 p	104.6 p	113.5	172	215.9	10.3	161.1 p	167.7 p	372.4 p	1 306.4	5.4	257.3	133.6	127.8
Jun			121 p	208	219.6	11.4	162.1 p	170.6 p		1 278.7	5.3	262.4	140.7	132.0
Jul										1 278.7 p	5.3 p	253.0 p		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+4.0	+5.2	+6.1	+36.5	+3.7		+5.5	+3.9	+5.7	−4.7		+9.2	+21½	+14
on a year earlier	+3.5	+1.7	+8.4	+34.8	+10.6		+9.7	+10.6	+15.0	−6.5		+22.6	+10	+17½

p Provisional. pe Preliminary estimate. [1] Including figures published on or before 3 August 1979. [2] Average of available months.

Inquiries: 01-215 3453

Economic indicators of the industrial countries

The tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves. International publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented, where available, by later reports, denoted – e. The form of presentation adopted – indicators by subject – is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated and from the national publications of the countries concerned. Exchange rates are those used in the basic data sources. The group of industrial countries, taken as comprising the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), is western Europe, north America, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Consumer prices apart, New Zealand is excluded from OECD totals in that insufficient information is available.

The five tables in this article are published monthly. A full set of tables with commentary appears quarterly (see *Trade and Industry*, 1 June).

Consistent with the OECD source, indices now appear on 1975 = 100.

Inquiries: 01-215 3442.

Table 1 **Industrial production** (excluding construction) seasonally adjusted

Indices 1975 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	France [2]	F.R. of Germany [4]	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom r	EEC [1] [3]	Canada	United States	Japan r	OECD [3]
Weights in total	1.6	0.1	7.9	13.5	0.2	4.9	1.8	5.6	35.6	3.7	34.9	15.5	100
1974	111		108	106.0	107	109.7	105	105.0	107	105.7	109.8	111.7	109
1975	100	100.0	100	100.0	100	100.0	100	100.0	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	100
1976	109	106.3	109	107.3	109	111.6	106	102.7	108	105.1	110.2	111.0	109
1977	109	106.9	110	110.5	118	111.6	107	107.4	110	109.3	116.4	115.6	113
1978	111	108.5	113	112.9	129	113.8	108	110.7	112	115.2	123.3	122.7	118
1977 1st quarter	110	106.6	112	111	114	118.7	107	107.5	112	108.5	113.4	115.3	112
2nd	108	108.0	111	110	117	112.8	108	107.4	110	108.6	116.3	115.2	113
3rd	109	105.5	110	110	118	112.5	105	107.9	110	109.4	117.5	115.1	113
4th	108	107.3	109	111	123	110.5	107	106.9	110	110.9	118.3	116.6	114
1978 1st quarter	109	107.0	110	111	127	114.5	107	108.3	111	112.3	118.5	119.6	115
2nd	109	105.7	114	111	129	113.6	106	111.4	112	113.7	122.2	121.8	117
3rd	112	110.7	112	114	127	114.0	108	112.4	113	115.8	124.8	123.4	119
4th	116	111.3	115	115	132	120.6	111	110.8	115	118.8	127.1	126.0	121
1979 1st qtr	116	110.4	116	116		122.2	110	111.7	114	121.3	128.6	128.1	122
2nd											128.4 e		
1978 January	108	109.2	111	114		113.2	107	108.2	112	110.6	117.8	118.7	115
February	109	107.2	111	110		115.1	107	108.7	111	112.8	118.2	119.3	114
March	109	104.5	113	110		115.0	107	108.1	111	113.5	119.6	120.7	116
April	109	109.8	117	111		113.0	108	111.8	112	113.9	121.6	121.3	117
May	111	103.2	114	110		113.3	103	110.6	111	112.9	122.2	121.9	117
June	107	104.2	112	112		114.5	108	111.9	112	114.4	123.0	122.1	117
July	111	114.1	113	114		113.7	110	112.5	113	114.9	124.0	122.1	118
August	113	108.3	113	113		113.2	105	113.1	113	114.2	124.9	123.5	118
September	113	109.8	115	115		115.2	108	111.5	114	118.3	125.5	124.6	120
October	114	110.7	115	115		120.9	108	109.4	115	117.9	126.2	125.2	120
November	112	109.1	115	115		121.3	109	110.6	115	118.6	127.0	125.6	121
December	123	114.1	116	115		119.5	114	112.4	116	120.0	128.1	127.1	122
1979 January	114	104.4	115	115		119.4	110	105.0	114	120.7	128.1	127.2	121
February	117	113.5	115	114		125.2	109	114.5	116 e	121.4	128.4	128.9	122
March	117	113.2	117	117		122.2	110	115.6	116 e	121.8	129.3	128.3	123
April		114.0	115 e	118		123.5	113	115.0	117 e		127.5	129.7	123 e
May								115.8			129.1	131.8	
June											128.7 e		
% change latest three months													
On previous three months	−0.3	4.0	0.3	1.2	3.9	3.0	−0.3	4.4	1.2	2.1	−0.1	1.7	1.1
On a year earlier	6.7	6.0	1.8	5.4	7.3	8.1	3.1	4.8	4.5	8.0	5.0	7.1	6.1

[1] Excluding Denmark. [2] Yearly and quarterly data have more complete coverage than monthly data. [3] The monthly figures for OECD and EEC are weighted by Department of Trade consistent with the quarterly figures published by OECD. [4] From January 1978, data not comparable with those for previous periods. e Estimated. r Revised.
Source: United Kingdom, Central Statistical Office; all others 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Work

A volume of tables giving particulars of the minimum, or standard, time rates of wages for the more important industries and occupations, and of the normal weekly hours for which these rates are payable. The details given relate to the position as at April 1, 1977, but any later changes known to have come into operation are shown.

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Table 3 **Unemployment** seasonally adjusted*

Numbers thousands

	Belgium [3]	Denmark [5,7]	France [1,6]	F.R. of Germany [1]	Ireland [3]	Italy r[4]	Nether-lands [1]	United Kingdom [1,2]	Canada [4]	United States [4]	Japan [4]
1974	105	*50*	498	583	48	1 113	135	600	514	5 076	740
1975	177	*124*	840	1 074	75	1 230	195	929	690	7 830	1 000
1976	229	*126*	933	1 060	84	1 426	211	1 269	727	7 288	1 080
1977	264	164	*1 073*	1 030	82	1 545	204	1 378	850	6 856	1 100
1978	282	190	*1 167*	993	75	1 571	206	1 376	911	6 047	1 240
1977 1st quarter	249	147	997	1 014	82	1 496	204	1 333	816	7 178	1 052
2nd	261	156	1 067	1 042	83	1 536	202	1 353	832	6 949	1 099
3rd	272	163	1 134	1 041	82	1 611	203	1 403	863	6 708	1 131
4th	276	172	*1 084*	1 023	80	1 529	205	1 422	895	6 492	1 124
1978 1st quarter	279	183	*1 061*	1 011	78	1 565	205	1 416	901	6 179	1 173
2nd	285	184	*1 139*	1 000	76	1 556	202	1 389	922	6 028	1 251
3rd	284	186	1 234	995	74	1 576	206	1 368	921	6 027	1 288
4th	281	189	1 224	952	72	1 586	209	1 334	900	5 908	1 251
1979 1st quarter	287	176	1 285	920		1 684	211	1 357	882	5 878	1 118
2nd	295 e		1 369 e	875 e			210 e	1 304	855 e	5 864 e	
1978 January	278	179	*1 040*	996	79		206	1 422	886	6 292	1 141
February	278	181	*1 057*	1 012	78		205	1 414	894	6 092	1 176
March	281	189	*1 086*	1 024	77		204	1 411	924	6 153	1 200
April	283	185	*1 105*	998	77		203	1 403	916	6 063	1 212
May	287	184	1 135	1 007	76		202	1 385	927	6 156	1 254
June	286	183	1 176	996	74		202	1 378	923	5 864	1 288
July	283	184	1 225	1 000	74		204	1 370	908	6 176	1 265
August	285	185	1 251	1 000	74		206	1 373	922	5 940	1 282
September	283	187	1 226	984	73		208	1 360	933	5 964	1 317
October	282	188	1 219	972	72		209	1 350	899	5 836	1 275
November	282	188	1 215	951	72		209	1 332	906	5 877	1 280
December	279	190	1 238	933	71		210	1 320	895	6 012	1 200
1979 January	282	180	1 256	954	70		210	1 342	897	5 883	1 152
February	288	174	1 285	922			213	1 366	872	5 881	1 049
March	291	175	1 313	883			211	1 362	876	5 871	1 152
April	293	164	1 339	874			206	1 327	880	5 937	1 224
May	296		1 376	870			210	1 306	853	5 929	1 120
June	297 e		1 392	882 e			213 e	1 279	831 e	5 770 e	
July								1 279			
Rate % latest month	11.0 e	6.3	7.4	3.9 e	10.6	7.7	5.1 e	5.3	7.5 e	5.6 e	2.0 e
% change latest three months											
On previous three months	2.9	−8.1	6.6	−4.8	−2.7	6.2	−0.8	−4.7	−3.1	—	2.8
On a year earlier	3.5	−7.6	n.a.	−12.5	−10.9	7.6	3.6	−6.5	−7.3	−2.5	−4.6

*Unemployment data are defined and collected on different bases in different countries. The following notes indicate main variations preventing direct international comparison. [1] Numbers registered at employment offices. Rates are calculated as percentages of total employees. [2] Excluding school leavers. Year 1974 estimated in the absence of one month's figures. [3] Insured unemployed. Rates are calculated as percentages of total insured population. [4] Labour force sample survey. Rates are calculated as percentages of total labour force. The quarterly data for Italy relate to January, April, July and October. [5] From 1977, including unemployed insured for loss of part time jobs. From 1978, including partially unemployed. [6] Data from October 1977 to April 1978 are affected by administrative changes which tend to reduce the figures. [7] Numbers registered at employment offices. As from January 1979, rates are calculated as a percentage of total labour force. e Estimated. n.a. Not available. r Revised. Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators' and *Department of Employment Gazette*.

Table 5 **Consumer prices** All goods and services

Indices 1975 = 100

	Belgium	Luxem-bourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
1974	88.7	90.3	91.3	89.5	94.4	82.7	85.5	90.7	80.5	88.8	90.3	91.6	89.4	89.9
1975	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1976	109.2	109.8	109.0	108.6	104.5	118.0	116.8	108.8	116.5	110.1	107.5	105.8	109.3	108.5
1977	116.9	117.2	121.1	119.9	108.6	134.1	138.3	115.8	135.0	121.6	116.1	112.6	118.1	118.5
1978	122.1	120.8	133.2	130.8	111.4	144.3	155.1	120.5	146.2	130.4	126.5	121.2	122.6	128.0
1977 1st quarter	114.3	115.3	115.3	114.9	107.3	129.1	131.6	113.0	129.2	117.5	112.3	109.7	115.3	114.6
2nd	116.2	117.1	119.0	118.5	108.8	134.0	136.6	115.8	134.9	120.9	114.9	112.1	118.4	117.7
3rd	117.9	117.9	122.0	121.3	109.0	135.4	140.1	116.6	137.0	122.8	117.4	113.7	118.8	119.7
4th	119.3	118.4	128.3	123.6	109.3	137.8	144.8	117.8	139.0	124.8	119.9	115.0	119.8	121.8
1978 1st quarter	120.8	119.2	129.9	125.5	110.7	139.8	148.6	118.2	141.4	126.8	122.1	116.9	120.3	123.8
2nd	121.3	120.5	132.0	129.1	111.7	142.2	153.1	119.9	145.3	129.5	125.1	120.0	122.7	126.9
3rd	122.6	121.2	133.6	132.5	111.7	146.6	156.8	121.5	147.8	131.6	128.3	122.8	123.6	129.5
4th	123.9	122.3	137.5	135.3	111.8	148.7	161.5	122.6	150.3	133.7	130.3	125.3	123.9	132.0
1979 1st qtr	125.4	123.9	138.8	138.3	114.1	154.9	167.7	123.1	155.0	136.9	133.2	128.4	123.5	135.2
2nd	126.3 e	125.2 e	142.3 e	142.2 e	115.9 e	159.9		124.9 e	160.7		136.8 e	132.7 e		
1978 January	120.3	119.0	129.2	124.5	110.2		146.9	117.5	140.6	125.9	121.2	116.1	119.6	123.0
February	120.8	119.2	129.8	125.5	110.8	139.8	148.4	118.0	141.4	126.8	121.9	116.9	120.1	123.8
March	121.1	119.6	130.7	126.6	111.1		150.3	119.0	142.3	127.7	123.3	117.7	121.2	124.7
April	121.2	120.2	131.2	127.9	111.4		151.8	119.8	144.4	128.8	123.6	118.8	122.5	126.0
May	121.4	120.4	132.3	129.2	111.7	142.2	153.2	120.0	145.2	129.6	125.3	119.9	123.2	127.0
June	121.4	120.8	132.6	130.2	112.0		154.5	119.9	146.3	130.3	126.4	121.2	122.5	127.8
July	122.1	121.0	132.9	131.7	112.0		155.4	120.8	147.0	131.0	128.3	122.0	123.0	128.8
August	122.6	121.1	133.5	132.5	111.7	146.6	156.2	121.4	147.9	131.5	128.4	122.7	123.1	129.3
September	123.1	121.3	134.4	133.4	111.4		158.7	122.3	148.5	132.2	128.2	123.6	124.6	130.3
October	123.4	122.0	136.9	134.6	111.4		160.1	122.6	149.2	132.9	129.5	124.6	124.8	131.3
November	123.8	122.4	137.7	135.3	111.7	148.7	161.8	122.6	150.2	133.7	130.5	125.3	123.5	131.8
December	124.4	122.4	137.8	136.0	112.2		162.6	122.5	151.5	134.4	130.9	125.9	123.3	132.9
1979 January	125.1	123.4	137.9	137.2	113.4		165.3	122.2	153.7	135.8	131.9	127.0	123.4	134.2
February	125.5	124.0	138.6	138.2	114.0	154.9	167.8	122.9	155.0	137.0	133.1	128.5	123.0	135.2
March	125.6	124.2	140.0	139.4	114.8		170.1	124.3	156.2	138.0	134.7	129.7	124.0	136.3
April	125.9	124.5	140.4	140.8	115.4		172.2	124.9	158.9	139.5	135.7	131.2	125.7	138.0
May	126.2	125.3	142.6	142.3	115.8	159.9	174.5 e	124.9	160.2	140.6	137.0	132.8	127.0	139.3
June	126.9 e	125.9 e	143.9 e	143.6 e	116.4 e			124.9 e	163.0		137.6 e	134.1 e		
Percentage change														
Latest month on same month a year earlier	4.5	4.2	8.5	10.3	3.9	12.4	13.9	4.2	11.4	8.5	8.9	10.6	3.1	9.7
Latest three months on previous three months	0.7	1.1	2.5	2.9	1.6	3.2	4.3	1.4	3.7	2.7	2.7	3.3	1.9	2.8
Latest three months on a year earlier	4.1	4.0	7.8	10.2	3.7	12.4	13.5	4.2	10.6	8.3	9.3	10.6	2.7	9.5

e Estimated.
Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

Table 8 **Exports** (fob) Special trade [1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark [2]	France	F.R. of Germany [5]	Ireland [2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom [2]	EEC	Canada	United States [2] [5]	Japan [2]	OECD
1974	28 260	7 716	45 900	89 160	2 628	30 288	32 436	38 827	275 100	32 784	98 508	55 536	532 932
1975	28 812	8 712	52 212	90 024	3 216	34 824	34 440	44 270	295 992	32 304	107 652	55 752	567 804
1976	32 844	9 108	55 812	102 036	3 312	36 924	38 748	46 542	325 044	38 628	114 996	67 224	630 492
1977	37 488	10 068	63 516	117 936	4 392	45 036	43 680	57 526	379 620	41 556	120 168	80 496	715 104
1978 [4]	44 808	11 844	76 464	142 092	5 676	55 956	50 016	71 729	458 544	46 152	143 664	97 548	857 844
1977 1st quarter	9 010	2 526	15 125	27 822	956	10 557	10 530	12 977	89 354	10 250	30 003	19 133	171 027
2nd	9 210	2 390	15 341	28 863	1 017	11 233	10 770	14 292	92 944	10 178	30 270	19 631	175 767
3rd	9 277	2 525	16 236	29 718	1 172	11 098	11 248	14 950	96 370	10 396	30 558	20 309	180 839
4th	9 755	2 645	17 132	31 569	1 250	12 037	11 325	15 307	101 345	10 496	29 451	21 440	187 358
1978 1st quarter [4]	10 262	2 710	17 594	33 054	1 351	11 772	12 089	17 122	105 610	10 640	31·479	23 382	196 899
2nd	10 365	2 885	18 264	34 089	1 332	13 224	12 054	16 715	108 955	11 440	35 364	23 770	207 156
3rd	11 217	3 026	19 955	35 943	1 444	12 991	12 897	18 440	115 873	11 524	37 584	25 094	218 264
4th	12 594	3 288	21 204	39 176	1 565	17 704	13 398	19 500	128 847	12 165	39 427	25 520	236 793
1979 1st quarter		3 382	22 101	39 716	1 596		14 387	18 003		12 845		23 698	
2nd								22 593					
1977 November	3 200	872	5 539	(10 197)	413	3 924	3 744	4 898	33 129	3 040	(9 093)	7 235	60 721
December	3 388	924	5 948	(11 482)	449	4 493	3 918	5 392	35 512	3 847	(11 218)	7 245	66 456
1978 January [4]	3 520	887	5 680	(10 942)	475	3 704	4 008	5 369	34 490	3 293	(10 150 e)	7 607	64 058
February	3 282	933	5 747	(10 772)	423	4 062	4 032	6 068	35 210	3 792	(10 036 e)	7 971	65 823
March	3 460	890	6 167	(10 680)	453	4 006	4 049	5 685	35 910	3 555	(10 897 e)	7 804	67 018
April	3 549	947	6 227	(12 108)	455	4 657	3 962	5 607	36 851	4 299	(11 975)	7 802	69 736
May	3 397	933	5 848	(10 354)	422	4 286	4 032	5 528	34 885	3 570	(11 720)	7 961	67 004
June	3 419	1 005	6 189	(12 293)	455	4 281	4 060	5 580	37 219	3 571	(12 112)	8 007	70 416
July	3 650	902	6 537	(10 664)	457	4 122	4 164	5 990	36 591	3 619	(12 054)	8 026	68 760
August	3 740	1 027	6 453	12 169	477	4 318	4 235	6 203	38 578	3 646	12 390	8 354	72 606
September	3 827	1 097	6 965	12 910	510	4 551	4 498	6 247	40 704	4 259	13 412	8 714	76 898
October	4 281	1 110	7 176	13 346	499	5 281	4 583	6 526	42 953	3 819	12 774	8 382	78 171
November	4 348	1 050	7 208	13 172	545	5 326	4 405	6 427	43 127	4 189	13 134	8 787	79 541
December	3 965	1 128	6 820	12 658	521	7 097	4 410	6 547	42 767	4 157	13 519	8 351	79 081
1979 January	3 925	1 098	7 153	13 178	476	4 682	4 585	6 037	41 001	4 201	13 406	7 960	77 264
February	4 522	1 026	7 413	13 160	559	6 492	4 778	5 446		3 885	13 951	8 269	
March		1 258	7 535	13 378	561		5 024	6 520		4 759		7 469	
April		1 127	7 470					7 083		4 273			
May								7 345					
June								8 165					

[1] See notes to table 9.

Source: United Kingdom. Department of Trade; all others: 'OECD Series "A" '.

Table 9 **Imports** (cif) Special trade [1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark [2]	France	F.R. of Germany [5]	Ireland [2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom [2]	EEC	Canada [3]	United States [2] [3] [5]	Japan	OECD
1974	29 700	9 852	52 824	68 976	3 816	40 968	33 204	54 344	293 568	32 292	100 968	62 112	583 080
1975	30 708	10 332	54 240	74 208	3 804	38 364	35 148	53 618	300 048	33 960	96 936	57 864	587 376
1976	35 352	12 420	64 392	87 780	4 200	43 368	39 948	56 269	343 428	37 956	121 788	64 800	676 308
1977	40 248	13 260	70 488	100 704	5 388	47 556	45 600	63 740	386 940	39 540	147 852	70 812	765 936
1978 [4]	48 360	14 760	81 684	120 672	7 116	56 364	52 872	78 652	460 404	43 560	173 292	79 344	886 608
1977 1st quarter	9 379	3 285	17 317	23 985	1 243	11 910	11 224	15 322	93 627	9 874	35 460	17 625	185 655
2nd	9 564	3 282	17 338	24 240	1 286	12 074	11 280	16 429	95 262	10 081	37 788	17 610	190 907
3rd	9 487	3 372	17 854	25 836	1 417	11 344	11 581	15 779	96 740	9 850	37 284	17 698	192 793
4th	10 125	3 291	18 236	26 883	1 474	12 143	11 693	16 210	100 025	9 871	37 758	17 928	196 200
1978 1st quarter [4]	10 992	3 467	19 144	28 464	1 524	11 953	12 419	18 977	106 689	9 660	40 809	18 429	206 318
2nd	10 851	3 500	19 567	28 548	1 748	12 741	12 524	18 754	107 813	11 148	43 236	18 999	212 913
3rd	11 869	3 773	20 901	30 513	1 937	13 854	13 639	20 239	116 745	10 914	44 175)	20 172	224 439
4th	12 983	4 123	22 578	33 626	1 949	17 332	14 751	20 681	128 592	11 843	46 123	21 891	244 395
1979 1st quarter		4 078	23 665	35 209	2 072		14 668	21 481		12 627	45 444	24 408	
2nd								25 050					
1977 November	3 359	1 094	6 218	(8 773)	479	3 882	3 926	4 998	33 046	2 997	(11 581)	6 000	63 824
December	3 511	1 105	6 122	(10 105)	509	4 238	4 015	5 875	34 512	3 515	(14 105)	6 078	67 971
1978 January [4]	3 626	1 150	6 397	(9 824)	537	3 807	4 117	6 257	35 266	3 059	(12 582)	6 176	67 254
February	3 673	1 148	6 180	(9 252)	515	4 071	4 145	6 163	35 049	3 691	(14 848)	6 277	70 243
March	3 693	1 169	6 567	(8 978)	472	4 075	4 157	6 557	36 374	2 910	(13 348)	5 976	68 821
April	3 535	1 143	6 530	(10 104)	546	4 326	4 253	5 666	35 309	4 253	(15 328)	6 584	71 768
May	3 664	1 179	6 529	(9 050)	597	4 502	4 233	6 562	36 359	3 430	(14 165)	6 655	71 020
June	3 652	1 178	6 508	(9 823)	605	3 913	4 038	6 526	36 145	3 465	(13 707)	5 760	70 125
July	3 753	1 175	6 729	(9 686)	604	5 133	4 480	6 522	38 074	3 707	(15 643)	6 384	73 624
August	4 096	1 291	6 977	10 113	673	4 233	4 534	6 698	38 658	3 440	13 778	6 706	73 207
September	4 020	1 307	7 195	10 664	660	4 488	4 625	7 019	40 013	3 767	15 358	7 082	77 608
October	4 379	1 385	7 548	11 237	681	4 844	4 918	6 861	42 028	3 843	15 402	6 911	80 798
November	4 334	1 351	7 522	11 264	695	5 384	5 039	6 992	43 422	3 836	14 931	7 412	81 616
December	4 270	1 387	7 508	11 125	573	7 104	4 794	6 828	43 142	4 164	15 790	7 568	81 981
1979 January	3 965	1 300	7 730	11 609	673	5 068	4 602	6 597	41 449	4 104	14 974	7 481	79 580
February	4 523	1 336	8 064	11 558	677	5 890	4 926	7 373		3 975	15 354	7 971	
March		1 442	7 871	12 042	722		5 140	7 511		4 548	15 116	8 956	
April		1 466	7 863					8 215		4 231	15 865		
May								8 098					
June								8 737					

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[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] fob. [4] In these tables, from January 1978, the trade of Ireland, United Kingdom, United States, Italy and Japan are classified according to SITC Rev 2. The changes are described in an article in *Trade and Industry* 10 February 1978, which also gives for the UK an indication of the magnitude of the change. It is thought that other countries have also adopted this classification from the beginning of 1978, but the extent of the discontinuity has not been ascertained. Percentage changes may be misleading and have therefore been omitted. [5] The OECD has revised the seasonally adjusted figures. It has been possible to include only the published revisions at this stage, therefore figures in parenthesis are still on the old basis.

Source: United Kingdom, Department of Trade; all others: 'OECD Series "A" '

Machine tool sales and orders: April

The current picture suggested by the trend estimates of the volume indices for sales and orders of metal-working machine tools is one of rising sales in both home and overseas markets together with improving new orders for export, but a decline in new orders from the home market.

The trend of total sales of machine tools, which has been virtually flat for the last two years, has risen by 12 per cent over the January-April period. The decline in the trend in total new orders from its peak level in October 1978 seems to have eased, on the three monthly comparison; however, the trend is still down by 4 per cent. Order-books have remained unaffected.

The home sales trend shows a rise of 14 per cent over the latest three months. New orders from the home market, which had been behaving fairly erratically up to mid-1978, have latterly been declining from an ill-defined peak in the fourth quarter of last year. Order books have shortened slightly in response.

The performance of the export market seems satisfactory. The sales-trend has gone up by 7 per cent between January and April reversing the slight decline in sales experienced over the November 1978-January 1979 period. The trend of new orders which has been rising steeply following March 1978 suffered a set back during the November 1978-January 1979 period, but has recovered and has been strongly upward since. Order books have been boosted but their level over the recent period is still very poor in comparison with the base year.

Inquiries: Department of Industry, Room 610, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 1AG, tel. 01-212 6044.

Trend and seasonally-adjusted volume index numbers for metal-working machine tool industry – MLH332

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders on hand (end of period) 1975 average = 100	New orders (a) 1975 average monthly sales = 100	Sales	Orders on hand (end of period) 1975 average = 100	New orders (a) 1975 average monthly sales = 100	Sales	Orders on hand (end of period) 1975 average = 100	New orders (a) 1975 average monthly sales = 100	Sales
Ratio of orders on hand/ average monthly sales in 1975 (b)	8.2			7.2			9.6		
Trend estimates									
1977									
January	62	87	84	63	90	93	60	82	69
February	62	87	82	63	91	90	61	80	68
March	63	87	80	64	93	88	62	76	67
April	64	86	78	65	95	87	63	71	65
May	65	85	78	67	97	86	63	67	65
June	66	85	78	68	96	85	63	66	66
July	67	85	78	70	96	85	63	68	68
August	67	85	79	71	94	84	63	70	71
September	68	84	79	73	93	83	63	70	72
October	69	84	79	74	94	82	62	69	73
November	69	85	80	76	96	83	61	67	74
December	70	86	80	78	100	84	60	63	74
1978									
January	71	85	81	80	101	86	59	59	73
February	71	82	81	82	99	86	57	56	72
March	70	79	81	83	95	86	55	54	72
April	70	76	81	83	90	86	54	54	72
May	69	75	80	83	87	86	52	57	71
June	69	76	81	83	86	87	51	61	71
July	69	81	81	83	89	88	51	68	71
August	69	88	82	85	96	88	51	74	72
September	71	94	82	87	104	88	52	79	71
October	73	97	81	89	109	88	53	79	69
November	75	96	80	92	109	89	54	76	66
December	76	93	80	94	106	91	55	71	64
1979									
January	77	89	82	95	101	94	55	70	63
February	77	87	84	95	96	98	56	71	63
March	77	85	88	94	92	103	57	74	65
April	77	86	92	93	90	107	57	80	67
Percentage change (c) (d) Jan 1979-April 1979	–	−3.5	+12.0	−1.0	−11.5	+14.0	+3.0	+14.5	+7.0
Seasonally adjusted									
1975	74	60	100	73	64	100	75	53	100
1976	60	74	84	62	80	87	57	65	79
1977	70	87	80	78	96	86	61	72	70
1978	78	87	81	97	100	87	55	67	71
1977									
3rd qtr	67	82	79	72	90	84	62	69	70
4th qtr	70	86	80	78	97	84	61	67	73
1978									
1st qtr	70	83	81	83	101	87	55	56	73
2nd qtr	68	72	80	82	84	86	50	53	70
3rd qtr	70	90	82	86	97	88	52	78	72
4th qtr	78	103	82	97	117	90	55	81	69
1979									
1st qtr	76	76	81	93	86	96	56	60	59
1977									
July	67	87	79	70	95	88	64	74	65
August	67	80	77	71	93	83	63	59	67
September	67	80	80	72	83	81	62	76	79
October	68	86	78	74	93	80	62	75	76
November	70	85	74	76	95	77	62	70	71
December	70	86	86	78	104	95	61	57	72
1978									
January	70	84	80	80	102	85	59	55	73
February	71	92	81	82	107	87	58	67	71
March	70	74	82	83	93	88	55	44	73
April	71	80	76	85	95	78	53	55	74
May	69	67	84	83	72	93	52	60	69
June	68	68	79	82	84	86	50	44	67
July	69	94	81	84	97	86	51	88	73
August	68	76	83	83	86	91	50	59	71
September	70	99	82	86	107	88	52	87	74
October	73	102	79	89	113	90	54	85	63
November	74	90	87	91	99	88	53	76	85
December	78	118	79	97	141	91	55	81	60
1979									
January	79	81	72	97	91	90	57	65	42
February	76	63	86	95	77	96	54	40	71
March	76	83	87	93	88	101	56	74	63
April	76	106	101	91	103	117	59	112	77
1979 (av) February-April	76	84	91	91	89	105	59	76	70
1978 (av) November 78-January 1979	79	96	79	97	110	90	57	74	63
Percentage change (c) (d)	−3.5	−12.5	+15.5	−6.5	−18.5	+17.0	+2.5	+2.0	+12.5

(a) Net of cancellations. (b) This ratio shows the number of months' work in the order book in the base year at the then average rate of sales. (c) For orders on hand the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. (d) The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values.

National Income and Expenditure Blue Book 1978

National Income and Expenditure 1967–77, prepared by the Central Statistical Office, contains detailed estimates of national product, income and expenditure for the United Kingdom. The 1978 edition covers mainly the years 1967–77.

It contains information on personal income and expenditure, company income and its appropriation, public corporations, central and local government, investment and capital stock, output and expenditure at constant prices, now rebased on the year 1975, and other subjects. Definitions and detailed notes, which update **National Accounts Statistics: Sources and Methods** (HMSO 1968) are also included.

Price £4.95 (by post £5.20)

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Motor vehicle production in June

Cars

June production of 114 224 units was 6 per cent below that in June 1978.

Recorded production in the first six months of 1979 was 11 per cent below that in the corresponding period of last year. Production for export fell by 19 per cent while that for the home market fell by 6 per cent.

Seasonally adjusted production of 101 000 units was 1 per cent below the monthly average during 1978.

Commercial vehicles

June production of 43 352 units was 10 per cent above that in June 1978.

In the six months to June 1979, recorded commercial vehicle production was 12 per cent above that in the same period of last year. Production for export rose by 2 per cent while that for the home market rose by 21 per cent.

Seasonally adjusted production of 37 900 units was 18 per cent above the 1978 average.

Inquiries: Department of Industry, Room 911, Millbank Tower, Millbank, SW1P 4QU, tel. 01-211 7272.

Table 1 **Car and commercial vehicle production**

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and unassembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery-operated road vehicles are excluded.

	No of weeks	Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
		For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1969	53	892 758	824 315	1 717 073	32 398	272 998	192 778	465 776	8 788
1970	52	918 109	722 857	1 640 966	31 557	267 407	190 125	457 532	8 799
1971	52	1 027 462	714 478	1 741 940	33 499	268 278	187 928	456 206	8 773
1972	52	1 307 881	613 430	1 921 311	36 948	272 649	135 470	408 119	7 848
1973	52	1 142 216	605 105	1 747 321	33 602	257 574	159 049	416 623	8 012
1974	52	937 932	596 187	1 534 119	29 502	232 373	170 193	402 566	7 742
1975	52	735 532	532 164	1 267 696	24 379	194 319	186 386	380 705	7 321
1976	53	768 481	564 968	1 333 449	25 159	182 554	189 503	372 057	7 020
1977	52	753 195	562 777	1 315 972	25 307	201 445	196 823	398 268	7 659
1978	52	728 370	494 579	1 222 949	23 518	215 550	168 968	384 518	7 395
1979	52								
1978									
January	4	67 488	43 961	111 449	27 862	16 396	14 717	31 113	7 778
February	4	65 029	42 883	107 912	26 978	15 699	14 959	30 658	7 665
March	5	78 044	61 086	139 130	27 826	22 854	19 057	41 911	8 382
April	4	68 388	50 721	119 109	29 777	18 802	16 169	34 971	8 743
May	4	76 240	45 363	121 603	30 401	20 824	16 990	37 814	9 454
June	5	79 262	42 848	122 110	24 422	22 318	17 163	39 481	7 896
July	4	40 644	24 273	64 917	16 229	15 209	12 032	27 241	6 810
August	4	51 205	37 669	88 874	22 219	12 160	9 057	21 217	5 304
September	5	68 540	38 950	107 490	21 498	20 243	13 531	33 774	6 755
October	4	42 418	36 836	79 254	19 814	15 967	10 331	26 298	6 575
November	4	29 216	28 305	57 521	14 380	13 548	10 757	24 305	6 076
December	5	61 896	41 684	103 580	20 716	21 530	14 205	35 735	7 147
1979									
January	4	58 744	33 533	92 277	23 069	20 636	11 401	32 037	8 009
February	4	61 233	38 560	99 793	24 948	21 909	15 565	37 474	9 369
March	5	86 511	46 801	133 312	26 662	29 040	21 341	50 381	10 076
April	4	61 207	35 716	96 923	24 231	20 721	17 320	38 041	9 510
May	4	68 611	36 845	105 456	26 364	22 709	17 310	40 019	10 005
June	5	74 197	40 027	114 224	22 845	25 795	17 557	43 352	8 670
Cumulative:									
Jan-Jun 78		434 451	286 862	721 313	27 743	116 893	99 055	215 948	8 306
Jan-Jun 79		410 503	231 482	641 985	24 692	140 810	100 494	241 304	9 281
Percentage change		−6	−19	−11		+21	+2	+12	

Note: From January 1978, Land-Rover estate vehicles were recorded as commercial vehicles rather than as passenger cars. Figures for 1977 were revised on to this basis. The number of these vehicles in 1977 was 11 848.

Table 2 **Production seasonally adjusted**

Monthly average — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	15.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	51	146	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.4	14.2	33.6
1975	61	45	106	16.2	15.5	31.7
1976	64	47	111	15.2	15.8	31.0
1977	63	47	110	16.8	16.4	33.2
1978	61	41	102	18.0	14.1	32.1
1979						
1978						
January	66	45	111	17.6	15.8	33.4
February	69	43	112	15.7	15.0	30.7
March	69	52	121	19.2	16.2	35.4
April	69	48	117	19.7	16.3	36.0
May	64	40	104	19.7	14.9	34.6
June	70	38	108	19.9	14.4	34.3
July	59	37	96	19.2	14.3	33.5
August	65	50	115	17.3	14.0	31.3
September	68	39	107	18.9	13.2	32.1
October	46	37	83	15.4	10.8	26.2
November	28	27	55	12.8	11.6	24.4
December	57	38	95	20.2	12.3	32.5
1979						
January	58	35	93	22.2	12.3	34.5
February	65	39	104	22.1	15.6	37.7
March	72	38	110	23.1	17.2	40.3
April	65	36	101	23.1	18.5	41.6
May	58	32	90	21.5	15.2	36.7
June	66	35	101	23.1	14.8	37.9

Notes to table 2: The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest six months and the previous six months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

Insolvencies in England and Wales: second quarter

On a seasonally adjusted basis, both company liquidations and bankruptcies fell in the second quarter of 1979, continuing the downward trend of the last two years.

Table 1 shows that the number of company liquidations, seasonally adjusted, fell from about 1250 in the first quarter to about 910 in the second quarter, with the sharpest fall in compulsory liquidations which fell from about 580 to about 310. Creditors' voluntary liquidations fell from about 670 to about 590, a level similar to the fourth quarter of 1978. Before seasonal adjustment there were 928 liquidations, 325 compulsory and 603 creditors' voluntary. The total is 32 per cent below the second quarter of 1978, the compulsory 47 per cent below and the creditors' voluntary 21 per cent below.

Table 1 also shows that, on a seasonally adjusted basis, bankruptcies (receiving orders, administration orders and deeds of arrangement) fell slightly from about 880 to about 865. Before seasonal adjustment the total was 855, 19 per cent less than in the second quarter of 1978.

High Court and county court figures

The numbers of receiving and administration orders and compulsory winding up orders made in the High Court and county courts during the second quarter of 1979 and the four preceding quarters were as follows:

	1978			1979	
	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr
Receiving and administration orders					
High Court	460	268	526	493	420
County courts	568	494	483	462	427
Total	1 028	762	1 009	955	847
Compulsory liquidation winding-up orders:					
High Court	508	188	702	512	264
County courts	102	93	123	87	61
Total	610	281	825	599	325

Industrial analysis

Table 2 gives the industrial analysis of receiving orders administered (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) up to the first quarter of 1979. This table excludes orders that were consolidated or rescinded before the business of the debtor could be investigated and deeds that were voided; figures therefore do not agree with those in table 1 which are for all receiving orders, administration orders and deeds of arrangement made. The data vary from quarter to quarter although there is a tendency for certain groups, eg construction, always to form a large proportion of the total. The compilation of the data for the fourth quarter of each year differs from that for the first three quarters. For this reason it is preferable to avoid comparison

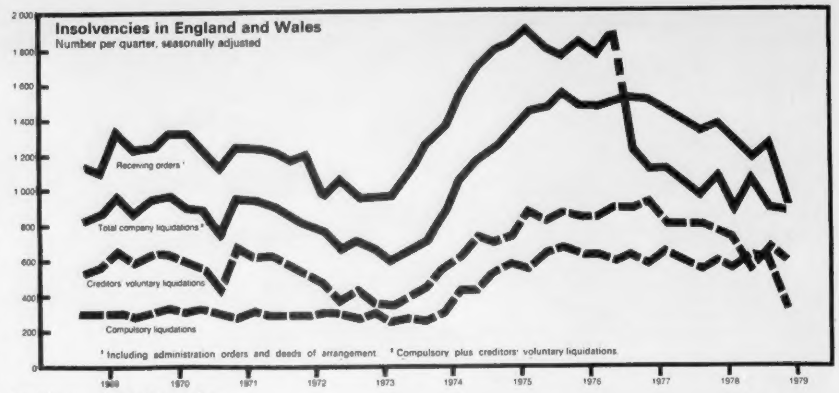

Table 1 Insolvencies

England and Wales — Number

	Bankruptcies					Company liquidations					
	Unadjusted				Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted			Seasonally adjusted		
	Total	Receiving orders	Administration orders	Deeds of arrangement	Total	Total	Compulsory	Creditors' voluntary	Total	Compulsory	Creditors' voluntary
1968	4 298	4 123	27	148		3 165	1 108	2 057			
1969	4 772	4 532	20	220		3 510	1 181	2 329			
1970	5 087	4 878	29	180		3 689	1 269	2 420			
1971	4 793	4 630	13	150		3 506	1 166	2 340			
1972	4 337	4 225	19	93		3 063	1 150	1 913			
1973	3 917	3 805	12	100		2 575	1 080	1 495			
1974	5 718	5 595	13	110		3 720	1 395	2 325			
1975	7 271	7 123	20	128		5 398	2 287	3 111			
1976	7 207	7 089	19	99		5 939	2 511	3 428			
1977	4 485	4 388	15	82		5 831	2 425	3 406			
1978	3 902	3 812	14	76		5 086	2 265	2 821			
1969											
1st qtr	1 231	1 173		58	1 137	872	318	554	825	296	529
2nd	1 095	1 055		40	1 097	871	308	563	860	295	565
3rd	1 215	1 157		58	1 316	798	171	627	961	308	653
4th	1 231	1 167		64	1 222	969	384	585	864	282	582
1970											
1st qtr	1 314	1 273		41	1 233	981	318	663	939	303	636
2nd	1 321	1 280		41	1 312	966	339	627	964	330	634
3rd	1 219	1 174		45	1 321	744	169	575	902	310	592
4th	1 233	1 180		53	1 221	998	443	555	884	326	558
1971											
1st qtr	1 171	1 145		26	1 110	760	310	450	732	299	433
2nd	1 253	1 205		48	1 236	945	285	660	940	273	667
3rd	1 137	1 092		45	1 232	777	172	605	928	311	617
4th	1 232	1 201		31	1 215	1 024	399	625	906	283	623
1972											
1st qtr	1 222	1 197		25	1 163	877	291	586	850	281	569
2nd	1 200	1 175		25	1 186	799	293	506	794	280	514
3rd	866	844		22	947	614	160	454	760	297	463
4th	1 049	1 028		21	1 041	773	406	367	659	292	367
1973											
1st qtr	1 011	982		29	955	710	273	437	698	270	428
2nd	952	919		33	940	653	308	345	651	299	352
3rd	875	858		17	957	463	130	333	586	247	339
4th	1 079	1 058		21	1 065	749	369	380	640	264	376
1974											
1st qtr	1 322	1 296		26	1 221	713	264	449	696	254	442
2nd	1 341	1 314		27	1 328	844	309	535	834	291	543
3rd	1 377	1 355		22	1 509	829	224	605	1 037	423	614
4th	1 678	1 643		35	1 662	1 334	598	736	1 153	427	726
1975											
1st qtr	1 938	1 900		38	1 771	1 238	540	698	1 220	529	691
2nd	1 816	1 783		33	1 817	1 317	593	724	1 307	578	729
3rd	1 719	1 693		26	1 892	1 138	279	859	1 419	547	872
4th	1 798	1 767		31	1 791	1 705	875	830	1 452	633	819
1976											
1st qtr	1 921	1 891		30	1 745	1 554	687	867	1 529	667	862
2nd	1 807	1 785		22	1 823	1 490	653	837	1 463	627	836
3rd	1 592	1 571		21	1 753	1 150	324	826	1 459	621	838
4th	1 887	1 861		26	1 886	1 745	847	898	1 488	596	892
1977											
1st qtr	1 373	1 350		23	1 248	1 542	653	889	1 504	620	884
2nd	1 092	1 067		25	1 107	1 533	602	931	1 494	571	923
3rd	1 002	980		22	1 109	1 125	336	789	1 444	643	801
4th	1 018	1 006		12	1 021	1 631	834	797	1 389	591	798
1978											
1st qtr	1 042	1 027		15	947	1 341	549	792	1 320	533	787
2nd	1 050	1 028		22	1 064	1 373	610	763	1 345	592	753
3rd	774	762		12	856	977	281	696	1 257	549	708
4th	1 036	1 009		27	1 035	1 395	825	570	1 164	591	573
1979											
1st qtr	973	955		18	881	1 274	599	675	1 247	577	670
2nd	855	847		8	865	928	325	603	907	313	594

between the analysis for the fourth quarter of 1978 and that shown in table 2 for other quarters.

The percentage accounted for by the self employed at 74 per cent in the first quarter of 1979 was about the same as a year earlier. Within this total, the chief increases between the first quarter of 1978 and the first quarter of 1979 were in total manufacturing, from 2 per cent to 5 per cent, chiefly accounted for by an increase in the timber and furniture industry, and the residual 'other industries' group from 1 per cent to 5 per cent. The chief falls were in non-food retailing from 13 per cent to 8 per cent and in hotels and restaurants from 7 per cent to 5 per cent.

Table 3 gives the industrial analysis of company liquidations up to the first quarter of 1979. The share of manufacturing at 20 per cent of the total, was about the same as in the previous quarter and slightly below the first quarter of 1978. Construction at 18 per cent was lower than in the previous quarter but about the same as in the first quarter of 1978. The chief industries showing falls on either comparison were non-food retailing at 11 per cent in the first quarter compared with 12 per cent in the previous quarter and 14 per cent in the first quarter 1978, financial and professional services at 13 per cent compared with 14 per cent and 16 per cent respectively and 'other consumer services' at 4 per cent compared with 7 per cent in both the previous periods. The chief increase was in the residual 'other industries' group which was 15 per cent in the first quarter 1979 compared with 9 per cent in the previous quarter and 5 per cent a year earlier.

Small changes in the industrial analysis should not necessarily be regarded as significant, particularly between quarters, if only because of the difficulty of making precise industrial classification in many cases and because of the erratic nature of the series.

Inquiries: Departments of Industry and Trade, Economics and Statistics Division 6A, Room 166, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5538.

Notes

An article describing these statistics and giving quarterly figures from the beginning of 1960 to the end of 1974 (with industrial analyses from the beginning of 1969 to the third quarter of 1974) was published in *Economic Trends* for March 1975.

The figures for bankruptcies in table 1 refer to persons, who are dealt with under the Bankruptcy Act 1914 and the Bankruptcy (Amendment) Act 1926 or who make arrangements with their creditors under the Deeds of Arrangement Act 1914. A receiving order is made by the court on the petition of a creditor if it is satisfied that the debtor has committed an act of bankruptcy, as listed in section 1 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, or on the petition of the debtor himself. The order makes the official receiver, who is an officer of the court, receiver of the debtor's estate and deprives the debtor of the right to deal with it. Administration orders, which are made under section 130 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, relate to deceased insolvents. Deeds of arrangement relate to arrangements between debtors and creditors that are reached, without recourse to the courts, under the Deeds of Arrangement Act 1914.

Insolvent partnerships are dealt with under the bankruptcy acts and are included in the figures for receiving orders in table 1. A single receiving order may be made against a partnership or receiving orders may be made against partners individually, when each is included in table 1. If separate receiving orders are made, they are consolidated before being proceeded with and appear as a single receiving order in table 2.

Receiving orders administered, referred to in table 2, are those receiving orders not consolidated or rescinded before the end of the year. For the first three quarters of the year, the industrial analysis in table 2 is compiled about two months after the end of the quarter, to allow time for the statistics to be collected. Some of these receiving orders may later be rescinded. The analysis for the fourth quarter is obtained by subtracting the figures for the first three quarters from the figures for the full year. The industrial analysis for the full year takes account of revisions to the figures for the first three quarters and these are reflected in the analysis for the fourth quarter. It is therefore not appropriate to compare the industrial analysis for the fourth quarter with the analysis for the earlier quarters of the year.

Insolvent companies are dealt with under the Companies Acts 1948 and 1967 and the figures for company liquidations in table 1 refer to the two types of liquidation that involve insolvency. The figures for compulsory liquidations relate to winding-up orders made by the courts. The figures for creditors' voluntary liquidations, in which the company and its creditors come to terms without court proceedings, relate to notifications of resolutions to wind up. There is a third type, members' voluntary liquidations: these do not involve insolvency and they are not included in the figures in this article.

The Insolvency Act 1976 changed some aspects of the law relating to both bankruptcy and company liquidation. Its provisions include an increase in the minimum debt to support a creditor's petition for bankruptcy from £50 to £200; and under an amendment to the Bankruptcy Rules 1952, the deposits required on bankruptcy petitions were increased from £5 to £50 for debtors' petitions and from £7.50 to £90 for creditors' petitions. These changes have had a substantial effect on the number of bankruptcy petitions, and hence on the number of receiving orders, from the beginning of 1977.

There is considerable seasonal variation between quarters in the insolvency series, mainly because about 40 per cent of all receiving orders and about 80 per cent of all compulsory liquidations are dealt with by the High Court, which has fewer sittings in the third quarter compared with other quarters because of the long vacation. For receiving orders, the seasonal fall in the third quarter is made up mainly in the following first quarter. Compulsory liquidations are more strongly seasonal, with a large fall in the third quarter followed by a large rise in the fourth. Creditors' voluntary liquidations are not particularly seasonal but seasonally adjusted figures for them are included in table 1.

Questions are often asked about the distribution of insolvencies by size or by region but it would be impracticable or very costly to compile statistics of this sort. There is no satisfactory measure of the size of an insolvency because a business tends to decline over a period and there are the problems of deciding for what time the size should be assessed and what measure should be used, and of obtaining this information retrospectively.

For regional statistics of bankruptcy, figures for receiving orders dealt with in the various courts provide some basis because cases are transferred to the court for the area in which the debtor lives or has his place of business. Annual figures for receiving orders analysed by court are given in the bankruptcy general annual report and quarterly figures so analysed are given in the *London Gazette*. Regional statistics of company liquidations cannot be obtained in this way, because of the large proportion of cases dealt with by the High Court. There is also the difficulty that, although the address of the company's registered office may be known, the activities of the company are often located elsewhere and often extend over a wide area.

Table 2 **Industrial analysis of receiving orders administered** [1]

England and Wales

	Numbers							Percentages						
			1978 r				1979			1978 r				1979
Industry	1977	1978	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	1977	1978	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr
Self-employed		r							r					
Agriculture	72	56	21	9	13	13	11	1.7	1.6	2.4	1.0	1.9	1.1	1.3
Manufacturing:														
Food, drink and tobacco	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	0.2
Chemicals	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—
Metals and engineering	43	59	12	8	6	33	10	1.0	1.6	1.4	0.9	0.9	2.9	1.2
Textiles and clothing	32	33	6	3	3	21	6	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.4	1.8	0.7
Timber and furniture	24	29	2	7	3	17	21	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.8	0.4	1.5	2.6
Paper, printing and publishing	16	13	1	2	—	10	2	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.2	—	0.9	0.2
Other manufacturing	13	12	—	1	2	9	2	0.3	0.3	—	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.2
Total manufacturing	130	148	21	21	15	91	43	3.1	4.1	2.4	2.3	2.2	7.9	5.3
Construction	986	894	192	210	155	337	163	23.6	24.8	21.7	23.5	22.9	29.3	20.3
Road haulage	252	199	51	42	32	74	40	6.0	5.5	5.8	4.7	4.7	6.4	5.0
Wholesaling:														
Consumer goods	44	47	3	9	15	20	11	1.1	1.3	0.3	1.0	2.2	1.7	1.3
Non-consumer goods	62	44	20	9	6	9	18	1.5	1.2	2.3	1.0	0.9	0.8	2.2
Retailing:														
Food	273	230	61	55	66	48	55	6.5	6.4	6.9	6.2	9.7	4.2	6.8
Non-food	517	402	113	88	85	116	67	12.4	11.1	12.8	9.8	12.5	10.0	8.3
Financial and professional services	213	189	34	36	38	81	32	5.1	5.2	3.8	4.0	5.6	7.0	4.0
Hotels and restaurants	239	283	58	77	41	107	39	5.7	7.8	6.5	8.6	6.0	9.3	4.9
Garages	175	175	36	40	31	68	27	4.2	4.8	4.1	4.5	4.6	5.9	3.4
Other consumer services	152	137	41	29	14	53	44	3.6	3.8	4.6	3.2	2.1	4.6	5.5
Other industries	36	51	9	5	14	23	43	0.9	1.4	1.0	0.6	2.1	2.0	5.3
Total	3 151	2 855	660	630	525	1 040	593	75.4	79.1	74.5	70.5	77.4	90.3	73.8
Other individuals														
Employees, no occupation and unemployed	625	434	167	172	93	2	123	15.0	12.0	18.8	19.2	13.7	0.2	15.3
Directors and promoters of companies	357	272	49	71	42	110	59	8.5	7.5	5.5	7.9	6.2	9.5	7.3
Occupation unknown	44	49	10	21	18	—	29	1.1	1.4	1.1	2.3	2.7	—	3.6
Total	1 026	755	226	264	153	112	211	24.6	20.9	25.5	29.5	22.6	9.7	26.2
All receiving orders administered	4 177	3 610	886	894	678	1 152	804	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

[1] Receiving orders made during the year, *less* those consolidated or rescinded before the end of the year, together with administration orders and deeds of arrangement on the same basis. The totals for all receiving orders administered are thus not equal to the totals shown in table 1. The construction of the quarterly figures is explained in the notes at the end of the article. r revise.

Table 3 Industrial analysis of total compulsory and creditors' voluntary liquidations

England and Wales

Industry	Numbers 1977	1978	1978 1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1979 1st qtr	Percentages 1977	1978	1978 1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1979 1st qtr
Agriculture	25	29	8	7	6	8	7	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5
Manufacturing:														
Food, drink and tobacco	38	40	8	15	8	9	7	0.7	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.5
Chemicals	31	22	6	8	4	4	18	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	1.4
Metals and engineering	343	310	71	87	75	77	73	5.9	6.1	5.3	6.3	7.7	5.5	5.7
Textiles and clothing	239	225	63	49	50	63	56	4.1	4.4	4.7	3.6	5.1	4.5	4.4
Timber and furniture	128	128	33	29	37	29	27	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.1	3.8	2.1	2.1
Paper, printing and publishing	136	103	32	28	21	22	18	2.3	2.0	2.4	2.0	2.1	1.6	1.4
Other manufacturing	264	248	67	61	48	72	57	4.5	4.9	5.0	4.4	4.9	5.2	4.5
Total manufacturing	1 179	1 076	280	277	243	276	256	20.2	21.2	20.9	20.2	24.9	19.8	20.1
Construction	1 004	929	241	228	171	289	232	17.2	18.3	18.0	16.6	17.5	20.7	18.2
Road haulage	256	229	51	80	33	65	58	4.4	4.5	3.8	5.8	3.4	4.7	4.6
Wholesaling:														
Consumer goods	291	232	68	64	48	52	59	5.0	4.6	5.1	4.7	4.9	3.7	4.6
Non-consumer goods	185	88	34	14	16	24	22	3.2	1.7	2.5	1.0	1.6	1.7	1.7
Retailing:														
Food	96	101	32	29	23	17	22	1.6	2.0	2.4	2.1	2.4	1.2	1.7
Non-food	692	681	187	207	126	161	137	11.9	13.4	13.9	15.1	12.9	11.5	10.8
Financial and professional services	723	765	213	212	144	196	159	12.4	15.0	15.9	15.4	14.7	14.1	12.5
Hotels and restaurants	144	161	39	49	25	48	41	2.5	3.2	2.9	3.6	2.6	3.4	3.2
Garages	108	119	24	35	24	36	41	1.9	2.3	1.8	2.5	2.5	2.6	3.2
Other consumer services	506	357	98	97	60	102	46	8.7	7.0	7.3	7.1	6.1	7.3	3.6
Other industries	622	319	66	74	58	121	194	10.7	6.3	4.9	5.4	5.9	8.7	15.2
Total	5 831	5 086	1 341	1 373	977	1 395	1 274	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks in April

In the three months ended April 1979 deliveries in the footwear industry were estimated to be 2 per cent lower on a seasonally adjusted pairage basis than in the three months ended January 1979. Net new orders were 25 per cent higher than in the previous three months, while at the end of April orders-on-hand were 31 per cent higher than those in January 1979. The index of output in the three months ended April 1979 was 1 per cent higher than in the three months ended January 1979.

Detailed breakdown

A detailed breakdown of manufacturers' deliveries by type of footwear in pairage and value terms, together with figures of exports, imports, consumers' expenditure, prices and employment is published in the Business Monitor production series under the reference PQ 450.

The index of output is calculated from the value of total sales and work done by firms classified to the footwear industry (minimum list heading 450 of the standard industrial classification). In using the index numbers, it should be borne in mind that when price increases are large the various problems associated with constructing a constant price value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent years.

Data on pairage

The data shown on pairage and value relate to complete footwear only sold by manufacturers classified to MLH 450 and to other industries (eg rubber) in the SIC, employing 25 or more persons.

Inquiries: 01-212 6787.

Index of output: orders on hand, new orders, deliveries and stocks of complete footwear

Monthly averages or monthly totals

	Index of output 1975 = 100	Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders			Deliveries			Stocks (end period)
		Million pairs	£m	Million pairs		£m	Million pairs		£m	Million pairs
1968		41.6		17.3			17.0			
1969		34.6		15.9			16.5			
1970		38.9		16.6			16.2			
1971		32.5	55.7	15.7			16.2		23.8	19.4
1972		29.5	59.6	15.2		24.8	15.4		24.5	18.5
1973	107	46.2	85.2	17.1		30.5	15.7		28.4	16.5
1974	105	44.3	79.5	14.3		30.9	14.4		31.3	18.0
1975	100	38.8	91.8	13.2		36.2	13.7		35.1	15.8
1976	99	46.8	132.9	13.7		42.8	13.1		39.4	14.4
1977	104	44.4	141.2	13.1		48.8	13.3		48.1	16.0
1978 p	103	47.5	169.8	13.3		56.6	13.3		54.2	18.5
	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual
1977 1st qtr	104	56.9	139.5	17.0	15.6	50.7	13.6	13.4	48.5	14.7
2nd	105	56.2	151.7	12.3	12.2	47.1	12.5	13.5	43.0	17.2
3rd	103	47.4	110.0	10.3	12.9	35.7	13.3	13.1	49.5	14.1
4th	105	44.4	141.2	12.7	12.5	61.7	13.7	13.4	51.3	16.0
1978 1st qtr	100	60.8	156.3	18.5	16.8	58.7	13.0	12.7	53.6	17.2
2nd	103	65.7	178.2	14.1	14.4	57.3	12.4	13.5	50.0	21.2
3rd	107	50.0	144.7	8.1	9.3	45.2	13.3	13.4	56.3	17.9
4th p	102	47.5	169.8	12.5	11.6	65.4	13.3	12.9	57.1	17.6
1979 1st qtr p	102	51.7	177.6	14.3	12.2	63.6	12.9	12.7	61.0	17.3
1977 January	102	51.1	132.5	16.1	17.6	40.9	11.7	13.0	41.3	
February	104	53.5	135.5	16.2	14.9	52.1	13.8	13.5	49.0	
March	105	56.9	139.5	18.8	14.3	59.1	15.4	13.8	55.2	
April	101	59.1	151.0	14.0	12.8	51.3	11.7	13.2	39.7	
May	112	61.2	161.4	15.5	13.4	55.5	13.4	14.2	45.1	
June	104	56.2	151.7	7.3	10.4	34.6	12.4	13.1	44.3	
July	99	53.5	135.1	9.0	17.0	25.5	11.7	13.0	42.1	
August	106	47.0	123.4	6.4	8.6	36.4	12.9	13.4	48.0	
September	103	47.4	110.0	15.6	13.2	45.1	15.3	13.0	58.4	
October	105	44.3	127.9	12.1	9.3	74.1	15.2	13.3	56.2	
November	106	41.0	133.9	11.5	10.4	61.3	14.7	13.2	55.3	
December	104	44.4	141.2	14.6	17.9	49.8	11.3	13.7	42.5	
1978 January	100	54.5	140.2	22.2	23.0	47.8	12.1	12.8	48.7	
February	99	55.6	141.9	14.0	12.9	55.1	12.9	12.6	53.4	
March	102	60.8	156.3	19.2	14.6	73.2	14.1	12.6	58.7	
April	105	56.8	164.7	8.2	7.9	57.0	12.1	14.4	48.6	
May	100	67.0	185.5	22.1	18.3	69.8	12.0	12.1	49.0	
June	105	65.7	178.2	12.0	17.0	45.2	13.2	13.9	52.5	
July	106	55.5	151.8	1.7	3.2	23.7	11.9	13.4	50.1	
August	113	52.3	145.7	10.5	14.0	51.3	13.6	14.1	57.4	
September	101	50.0	144.7	12.2	10.7	60.5	14.5	12.8	61.5	
October p	107	47.8	153.4	12.9	9.4	75.1	15.1	12.6	66.5	
November p	104	49.7	173.5	16.7	15.4	80.1	14.8	13.3	60.0	
December p	103	47.5	169.8	7.9	10.0	41.0	10.1	12.9	44.7	
1979 January p	99	50.5	161.3	15.2	13.2	46.5	12.2	12.5	55.0	
February p	101	50.0	162.2	11.5	10.9	60.8	12.1	11.9	59.9	
March p	107	51.7	177.6	16.3	12.6	83.5	14.5	13.8	68.1	
April p	100	66.2	204.3	25.4	24.8	77.7	10.9	12.4	51.1	

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[1] Based on early returns, seasonally adjusted deliveries in May are expected to be 12½ million pairs (unadjusted deliveries 11½ million pairs). p Provisional.

Cost indices for the aerospace and radio, radar and electronic capital goods industries

May's cost indices are given below. An explanation of the compilation of the indices was given in *Trade and Industry*, 8 December 1978, page 544.

Inquiries: 01-215 3073/3514.

Definitive information on earnings for both manual and administrative, technical and clerical (ATC) workers for the aerospace industry is available only for certain months of the year – manual earnings information is available for April and October each year, ATC salaries information is available for April of each year.

Revisions to series brought about as a result of ATC salaries information becoming available will be shown in the article to be published on 7 December and will affect indices from May last year up to and including those of August.

Revisions to series incorporated as a result of manual earnings information from the October survey are published in the April articles and these affect series from the preceeding November up to and including December. The results obtained from the April aerospace survey will affect indices from last November up to and including June and will be shown in the article published on 5 October.

The indices for wages and salaries for the radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry are based entirely on information relating to average earnings in the electrical engineering industry and all the manufacturing industries respectively.

The cost index tables previously D1-D5 and D7 have been redesignated sections 1 to 6 in the table.

The indices of combined costs are based on the assumption of no change in productivity.

p Provisional.

Cost indices for the aerospace and radio, radar and electronic capital goods industries (MLH 383 and 367 respectively)

1975 = 100

	1978								1979				
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
1 BOUGHT OUT FINISHED GOODS PURCHASED BY	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	152.0	154.8	155.3	155.6	157.0	159.9	160.3	162.2	162.1	165.0	168.2	170.7	173.3
Airframe sector	150.1	151.7	152.2	152.6	154.3	157.8	158.4	160.4	160.6	163.5	166.6	168.3	170.2
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	153.8	157.4	158.1	158.3	159.4	161.8	162.1	163.9	163.6	166.3	169.5	172.7	175.9
Aero-engine parts sector	153.9	157.2	158.5	158.7	159.6	161.3	161.8	163.1	163.2	166.0	169.1	172.9	175.4
Aircraft components sector	149.9	151.5	152.3	152.7	154.2	157.2	157.6	159.5	159.7	162.7	165.6	167.7	169.5
2 OTHER MATERIALS PURCHASED BY													p
Aerospace industry	151.7	153.0	154.0	154.7	156.0	157.3	158.6	159.9	161.4	163.7	166.1	169.8	172.2
Airframe sector	153.7	155.2	156.1	156.7	157.8	158.7	159.8	161.4	162.6	164.4	166.6	170.4	172.5
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	151.1	152.6	153.8	154.6	156.4	158.2	159.9	161.6	163.3	166.1	168.8	172.5	175.3
Aero-engine parts sector	150.9	152.0	153.3	154.2	155.4	156.6	157.8	159.1	160.5	162.6	164.6	168.2	170.4
Aircraft components sector	152.3	153.2	154.2	154.7	155.8	156.8	157.8	158.6	159.8	161.8	164.1	168.1	170.0
3 ALL PURCHASES OF GOODS BY	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	151.9	154.1	154.8	155.3	156.6	158.9	159.5	161.3	161.8	164.4	167.4	170.3	172.9
Airframe sector	151.4	153.0	153.6	154.1	155.5	158.1	158.9	160.8	161.4	163.8	166.6	169.0	171.1
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	153.1	156.1	156.9	157.3	158.5	160.8	161.5	163.3	163.5	166.1	169.3	172.6	175.8
Aero-engine parts sector	152.7	155.1	156.4	156.9	157.9	159.4	160.2	161.5	162.2	164.6	167.3	170.9	173.4
Aircraft components sector	151.6	152.7	153.6	154.1	155.3	156.9	157.7	158.8	159.8	162.1	164.6	167.9	169.8
													p
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	150.6	151.8	152.5	152.8	154.2	156.5	157.6	158.7	159.8	162.5	165.5	168.1	170.3
4 SALARIES AND GENERAL EXPENSES	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	149.3	151.4	151.4	151.6	153.3	159.0	158.8	161.9	160.9	164.6	168.8	169.5	172.1
Airframe sector	148.1	150.1	150.1	150.3	152.0	157.2	157.0	160.1	159.2	162.8	166.7	167.4	169.9
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	150.8	152.9	153.0	153.2	154.3	160.9	160.8	163.8	162.8	166.5	170.8	171.6	174.3
Aero-engine parts sector	152.1	154.1	154.3	154.6	156.3	162.4	162.4	165.4	164.6	168.2	172.3	173.2	175.8
Aircraft components sector	150.0	152.1	152.1	152.2	154.0	160.1	159.9	163.1	162.0	165.8	170.1	170.6	173.3
													p
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	152.9	155.0	155.0	155.1	157.1	162.7	162.6	166.0	164.6	168.9	173.5	174.0	176.6
5 HOURLY EARNINGS OF ADULT MANUAL WORKERS							p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	137.7	140.5	140.3	140.4	142.7	145.9	145.2	149.2	146.8	151.6	156.1	155.6	158.3
													p
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	145.7	148.1	146.9	144.9	146.8	151.5	153.1	153.3	153.1	156.1	163.7	161.0	165.1
6 COMBINED COSTS	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p
Aerospace industry	148.6	150.8	151.2	151.4	153.0	156.5	156.8	159.4	158.8	162.2	165.9	167.5	170.1
Airframe sector	148.2	150.0	150.3	150.6	152.2	155.8	156.2	158.8	158.4	161.5	165.1	166.4	168.7
Aero-engine and aero-engine parts sector	149.6	152.2	152.6	152.9	154.4	157.8	158.2	160.8	160.2	163.5	167.3	169.2	172.1
Aero-engine parts sector	149.2	151.5	152.1	152.5	153.9	157.2	157.6	160.0	159.6	163.0	166.4	168.3	170.8
Aircraft components sector	147.6	149.4	149.7	149.9	151.5	155.2	155.5	158.1	157.5	160.9	164.7	166.0	168.3
													p
Radio, radar and electronic capital goods industry	150.7	152.5	152.6	152.5	154.2	158.2	158.9	160.7	160.7	164.0	168.4	169.3	172.0

Unemployment and vacancies: July

The number of unemployed persons in Great Britain on 12 July 1979 was 1 392 021 representing 5.9 per cent of the total number of employees. This total includes 204 325 school leavers under 18 not yet employed.

The seasonally adjusted series shows that the number of unemployed in Great Britain excluding the school leavers was 1 219 000 (5.2 per cent of all employees), a decrease of 1800 since 14 June. In the last three months there has been a decrease on average of 16 300 a month.

Of the total unemployed in Great Britain, 336 000 had been unemployed for four weeks or less. It is estimated that about 937 000 were unemployed for more than four weeks, and were aged under 60.

Figures for unemployment in the United Kingdom are given in the tables.

The average number joining the unemployment register in the three months ending June was 356 000 per month compared with 349 000 in the three months ending March and 390 000 in the three months ending December 1978. The average numbers leaving the register in these three periods were 379 000, 347 000 and 399 000 per month respectively.

The average inflow of vacancies in the three months ending June was 238 000 per month compared with 210 000 in the three months ending March and 235 000 in the three months ending December 1978. The average outflows in the three periods were 236 000, 202 000 and 232 000 per month respectively.

Adult students

The unemployment figures exclude adult students aged 18 and over, who are registered

Unemployment (on 12 July 1979)

	Great Britain		United Kingdom	
	Number	Change since June	Number	Change since June
Unemployed, excluding school leavers	1 187 696	+43 704	1 248 456	+48 361
School leavers	204 325	+67 215	215 526	+71 756
Total unemployed	1 392 021	+110 919	1 463 982	+120 117
(Percentage of all employees)	(5.9)	(+0.5)	(6.1)	(+0.5)
Seasonally adjusted				
Unemployed, excluding school leavers	1 219 000	−1 800	1 278 700	—
(Percentage of all employees)	(5.2)	(—)	(5.3)	(—)

for temporary employment during a vacation and who intend to return to full-time education when the new term begins. On July 12 these numbered 115 673 in Great Britain and 121 473 in the United Kingdom.

Temporarily stopped

The unemployment figures do not include temporarily stopped workers – that is, those who had a job on the day of the count but were temporarily suspended from work on that day and were registered in order to claim benefits. These numbered 5824 in Great Britain and 6229 in the United Kingdom – representing an increase on 14 June of 334 in Great Britain and an increase of 295 in the United Kingdom.

Short-time working

In the week ending 12 May 1979, 32 000 operatives in manufacturing industries in Great Britain were on short-time working. Of these, 4000 were stood off for the whole week and 28 000 for part of the week. The figure compares with a total of 32 000 on short-time in the week ending 7 April, and 39 000 in the week ending 10 March 1979. The short-time working figures include temporarily stopped workers.

Notified vacancies

The number of vacancies notified to employment offices in Great Britain remaining unfilled on 6 July was 258 904, a decrease of 16 543 since last month. The number of vacancies notified to careers offices was 33 965, a decrease of 3245 since last month.

The seasonally adjusted series shows that the number of vacancies notified to employment offices in Great Britain was 251 600, a decrease of 9400 since June 1979.

Figures for notified vacancies in the United Kingdom are given in the tables.

Wholesale textile houses: sales and stocks in May

Table 1 **Textiles: wholesale sales and stocks**

Index numbers and percentage increase compared with a year earlier 1950 = 100

	Value of home sales		Value of stocks end period	
1966	110	*−3*	..	..
1967	104	*−5*	..	..
1968	108	*4*	..	..
1969	103	*−5*	..	..
1970	107	*4*	..	..
1971	115	*8*	..	..
1972	121	*5*	..	..
1973	134	*11*	..	..
1974	147	*9*	..	..
1975	147	*1*	..	..
1976	146	*−1*	..	..
1977	149	*2*	..	..
1978	164	*10*	..	..
1977 1st quarter	140	*5*	252	*7*
2nd quarter	125	*−2*	224	*6*
3rd quarter	153	*3*	214	*5*
4th quarter	180	*2*	228	—
1978 1st quarter	144	*3*	234	*−7*
2nd quarter	141	*13*	222	*−1*
3rd quarter	179	*17*	234	*10*
4th quarter	192	*7*	275	*20*
1979 1st quarter	157	*9*	280	*20*
1978 May	148	*15*	231	*−4*
June	138	*28*	222	*−1*
July	133	*12*	240	*1*
August	183	*29*	239	*5*
September	221	*11*	234	*10*
October	230	*15*	233	*10*
November	184	*13*	277	*13*
December	161	*−8*	275	*20*
1979 January	98	*8*	247	*16*
February	157	*5*	256	*14*
March	216	*13*	280	*20*
April	152	*11*	255	*21*
May	177	*19*	269	*16*

Sales by wholesale textile houses in May showed an increase of 19 per cent on a year earlier, compared with an increase of 13 per cent in March and an increase of 11 per cent in April.

The value of stocks at the end of May showed an increase of 16 per cent compared with the same period last year.

Inquiries: These statistics are prepared by Textile Distributors' Association. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, Textile Distributors' Association, 3 Berners Street, London W1P 4JP, tel. 01-580 2902.

Table 2 Analysis by department

Percentage increase compared with a year earlier

	Sales		Stocks [2]
	May 1979	Jan-.May 1979	May 1979
Women's knitted outerwear, blouses and skirts	52	32	13
Women's coats, costumes, furs and raincoats	16	22	−37
Women's underwear	17	4	20
Women's hose and children's socks	4	5	36
Haberdashery, ribbons and wool	3	4	18
Children's wear	29	1	7
Men's and boys' ready made clothing and overalls	—	8	21
Gloves	2	7	12
Piece-goods and nets	16	−32	—
Household textiles	−1	6	26
Floor coverings, furniture and hardware	21	12	19
Boots and shoes	5	18	−9
Total [1]	19	11	16

[1] Including some items not included among the sub-headings.
[2] Values at cost.

Orders for new construction: May

New orders for construction work in Great Britain received by contractors in the last three months, March to May 1979, were 2 per cent higher than in the previous three months, December 1978 to February 1979, but 3 per cent lower than in March to May 1978, according to provisional statistics obtained by the Department of the Environment. These figures are based on orders at constant (1975) prices, adjusted to exclude normal seasonal variations.

New orders in the public housing sector in March to May were up 5 per cent on the previous three months, but down 26 per cent on March to May 1978. For the same periods of comparison, private housing orders were up 9 per cent and down 16 per cent, respectively.

Public works orders received by contractors in March to May were up by 5 per cent on December to February and 28 per cent on March to May 1978. Orders for private industrial work were down by 1 per cent on the previous three months and 7 per cent on the corresponding period a year earlier, while, for the same periods of comparison, private commercial orders were down 8 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively.

In current prices, the total value of orders in May was £952 million.

Inquiries: 01-212 3490-3496.

Value of new orders obtained by contractors

Great Britain 1975 = 100

	New housing [1]			Other new work					
					Private sector				
	Public	Private	Total	Public	Industrial	Commercial	Total	Total	Total new work
1975	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1976	93.7	112.1	101.9	103.7	116.5	113.8	115.1	108.1	105.5
1977	67.6	102.6	83.1	85.4	140.0	122.1	130.5	102.9	94.7
1978	64.2	115.1	86.8	84.4	152.7	150.7	151.6	110.4	100.7
1977									
4th qtr	70.6	114.7	90.1	86.8	142.1	125.6	133.3	104.8	98.7
1978									
1st qtr	65.6	109.2	84.9	83.2	160.0	167.4	164.0	114.5	102.3
2nd qtr	70.3	113.8	89.6	78.0	156.6	147.0	151.5	106.4	99.5
3rd qtr	65.3	124.4	91.5	88.1	156.5	145.9	150.9	112.4	103.8
4th qtr	55.6	122.1	85.1	88.2	136.3	142.5	139.6	108.1	98.6
1979									
1st qtr p	48.4	78.4	61.7	88.4	147.8	148.3	148.1	111,5	90.9
1978									
April	67.6	105.8	84.5	73.4	158.6	142.3	149.9	103.0	95.4
May	80.4	109.0	93.1	85.2	164.2	146.0	154.5	112.0	104.2
June	62.9	117.4	87.1	75.4	149.3	152.8	151.1	104.7	97.4
July	58.6	120.6	86.1	83.2	131.7	129.8	130.7	101.6	95.2
August	71.2	129.0	96.9	91.4	177.7	150.6	163.3	119.2	110.0
September	66.1	124.8	92.1	89.6	160.7	157.4	158.9	116.5	106.4
October	56.0	121.5	85.0	107.4	159.1	131.2	144.2	121.7	106.6
November	61.6	119.2	87.1	66.5	108.2	163.2	137.5	94.0	91.1
December	49.2	100.4	71.9	90.8	142.2	132.9	137.3	108.8	93.6
1979									
January	44.4	69.5	55.5	71.1	153.0	157.4	155.3	103.7	83.8
February	54.1	84.0	67.4	113.3	152.3	169.4	161.4	131.9	105.3
March	46.6	81.7	62.2	80.8	138.2	118.0	127.5	98.9	83.7
April p	54.2	79.0	65.2	97.5	144.7	128.9	136.3	112.5	93.0
May p	54.4	115.7	81.6	111.1	160.0	178.0	169.6	133.7	112.2

[1] Excludes orders for home improvement work. p Provisional.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Film Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday 27 July 1979.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Side By Side	BR/E 40133/28/7/84	28	24 July	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Outrider Films Ltd
Round the World Yacht Race on Great Britain II	BR/E 40134/28/7/84	24	24 July	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Air Time Marine Ltd
Queen of the Blues	BR/E 40137/28/7/84	63	27 July	Tigon Film Distributors Ltd	Roldvale Ltd
FOREIGN					
The China Syndrome	F 40135	122	26 July	Columbia-EMI-Warner Distributors Ltd	Eyewitness Ltd California
Massage Girls in B'kok	F 40136	71	27 July	Tigon Film Distributors Ltd	The Minicat Production, Hong Kong

North Sea offshore industry

Statistics next week

Index to statistics published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

(a) annually (m) monthly (q) quarterly Weekly statistics are not included

Aerospace cost indices (m)	page 277
Air transport	
trade by air (a)	25 Aug 78
Balance of payments	
current account (m)	27 Jul 79
summary (q)	30 Mar 79
overseas royalties	12 Aug 77
trends in invisibles	6 Apr 79
see also Overseas trade of the UK	
Business names and limited partnerships (a)	23 Mar 79
Capital expenditure	
manufacturing, distributive and service industries (q)	6 Jul 79
provisional (q)	1 Jun 79
by regions	18 Feb 77
leasing, hiring and renting out (a)	29 Sep 78
see also Investment	
Catering trades	
turnover (q)	25 May 79
Check trading (a)	18 May 79
Chemicals industry	
activity (q)	20 Jul 79
Companies	
acquisitions and mergers (q)	11 May 79
analysis of accounts (q)	7 Jul 78
insolvencies (q)	page 274
liquidity (q)	8 Jun 79
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (m)	2 Mar 79
N. Ireland (m)	1 Jun 79
rate of return on capital (a)	22 Sep 78
structure of company financing (a)	16 Feb 79
Construction industry	
housing report (m)	16 Mar 79
orders (m)	page 278
output and employment (q)	20 Jul 79
private enterprise housebuilding (m)	29 Jun 79
work overseas (a)	20 Oct 78
Consumers' expenditure (q)	27 Jul 79
Depositors, protection of, Act (q)	20 Apr 79
Earnings, wage rates (m)	27 Jul 79
Energy trends	15 Jun 79
Engineering industries	
electrical engineering (q)	20 Apr 79
instrument engineering (a)	6 Apr 79
production indices (m)	27 Jul 79
sales and orders (m)	20 Jul 79
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (m)	6 Jul 79
British Film Fund distributions	27 Jul 79
cinema admissions and takings (m)	20 Jul 79
annual inquiry (a)	25 Aug 78
exhibitors' quota returns (a)	4 May 79
overseas payments and earnings (a)	6 Jul 79
registrations of films (a)	23 Feb 79
Food	
consumption levels (twice a year)	29 Sep 78
household consumption (q)	23 Mar 79
Footwear industry	
deliveries and stocks (m)	page 276
Foreign trade	
industrial countries' economic indicators (m)	page 269
quarterly analysis (q)	1 Jun 79
see also Overseas trade of the UK	
Furniture	
deliveries and orders (m)	13 Jul 79
Gross domestic product (q)	29 Jun 79
Health and safety	11 Aug 78
Hire purchase business (m)	6 Jul 79
Housing	
see Construction industry	
Industrial production	
index numbers (m)	20 Jul 79
Scotland (q)	20 Jul 79
Wales (q)	11 May 79
Insurance companies	
authorisations and revocations (m)	20 Jul 79
investment (q)	29 Jun 79
investments and assets (a)	10 Nov 78
Investment	
book values of overseas direct investment	23 Mar 79
foreign enterprises in UK	27 Jul 79
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	8 Jun 79
10-year review (a)	27 Oct 78
investment and earnings overseas (a)	9 Jun 78
see also Capital expenditure, insurance companies, and pension funds	
Land and building sales (a)	11 May 79
Made-up clothing	
orders and deliveries (m)	6 Jul 79
Man-made fibres	
deliveries (q)	2 Mar 79
production (m)	27 Jul 79
quarterly analysis (q)	2 Mar 79
Machine tools (m)	page 272
Moneylenders Acts (q)	20 Jul 79
Motor industry	
car and commercial vehicle production (m)	page 273
provisional (m)	13 Jul 79
motor trade turnover (q)	8 Jun 79
Office development permits (q)	8 Jun 79
Official reserves (m)	13 Jul 79
Overseas trade of the UK	
analysis by end-use	15 Jun 79
analysis by industry (q)	27 Jul 79
analysis of trends (q)	8 Dec 78
direct exporters and credit terms (a)	20 Jul 79
export prospects (q)	22 Jun 79
import penetration (q)	29 Jun 79
invoicing in foreign currencies: exports	8 Jun 79
imports	6 Jul 79
performance 1963-1978 (a)	16 Mar 79
see also Balance of payments	
Pension funds	
investment (q)	29 Jun 79
investments and assets (a)	10 Nov 78
Price Commission index (m–final)	25 May 79
Regional development grants (q)	18 May 79
Research and development	
expenditure and employment	6 Apr 79
Restrictive trading agreements (q)	20 Jul 79
Retail prices index (m)	27 Jul 79
Retail trades	
inquiry for 1977: final results	20 Jul 79
sales (m)	6 Jul 79
provisional (m)	20 Jul 79
stocks (m)	13 Jul 79
Royalties: overseas transactions (a)	8/22 Jun 79
Securities, particulars of dealers in	8 Jun 79
Selective financial assistance	
section 7 (m)	22 Jun 79
section 7 £10,000 or more (q)	15 Jun 79
section 8 (q)	20 Jul 79
Shipping	
nationality of vessels in UK seaborne trade (a)	6 Jul 79
UK revenue (a)	13 Oct 78
Steel	
consumption and stocks (q)	20 Apr 79
provisional (q)	18 Aug 78
Stocks	
manufacturers' and distributors' (q)	6 Jul 79
provisional (q)	1 Jun 79
manufacturers' (m)	27 Jul 79
retail (m)	13 Jul 79
Television	
overseas payments and earnings (a)	6 Jul 79
Textiles	
activity in the industry (q)	6 Jul 79
carpet sales (m)	27 Jul 79
cotton industry production (m)	27 Jul 79
hosiery production (m)	27 Jul 79
wholesale houses' sales and stocks (m)	page 278
wool output (m)	27 Jul 79
exports (q)	2 Mar 79
Tourism	
foreign arrivals (m)	13 Jul 79
overseas travel and tourism (a)	6 Apr 79
overseas travel and tourism (q)	20 Jul 79
Unemployment (m)	page 277
Unit trusts, particulars of dealers in	18 May 79
Wholesale prices	
average prices of selected commodities (a)	27 Apr 79
index numbers (m)	20 Jul 79
initial summary (m)	13 Jul 79

Organisational information

Commercial representation guide	18 May 79
CRE contact points	20 Jul 79
Departmental publications (m)	11 May 79
ECGD lines of credit	13 Jul 79
ECGD local offices	6 Apr 79
EEC guide parts 1, 2 and 3	1 Dec, 24 Nov & 8 Dec 78
European public holiday guide (a)	8 Dec 78
Government statistics guide	5 Jan 79
Guide to departments	6 Jul 79
Guide to HM Customs and Excise	18 Aug 78
Guide to schemes of selective financial assistance	19 Jan 79
Index, Jan-Mar	15 Jun 79
OTAR contact points	15 Jun 79
Release dates of economic statistics (m)	27 Jul 79
Trade promotions guide (q)	27 Jul 79

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502	512	522	532	542	552	562	572	582	592	602	612	622	632	642	652	662	672	682	692
503	513	523	533	543	553	563	573	583	593	603	613	623	633	643	653	663	673	683	693
504	514	524	534	544	554	564	574	584	594	604	614	624	634	644	654	664	674	684	694
505	515	525	535	545	555	565	575	585	595	605	615	625	635	645	655	665	675	685	695
506	516	526	536	546	556	566	576	586	596	606	616	626	636	646	656	666	676	686	696
507	517	527	537	547	557	567	577	587	597	607	617	627	637	647	657	667	677	687	697
508	518	528	538	548	558	568	578	588	598	608	618	628	638	648	658	668	678	688	698
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